Letter from the Director:
The Year in Review 3
Review of Culture & Arts Programming for 2015–16 5
Additional Highlights from Our Past Season 12
Jewish Lecture Series 13
Annual Kristallnacht Commemoration 18
Biblical Archaeology Slide-Lecture 19
Music & Theater Performance Series 20
Faculty Speakers Bureau 21
Achievements & Distinctions 22
Graduation & Awards Ceremony 29
Spotlight on Alumni 30
Our Publications 31
About the Center for Jewish Studies 33
A Note from Elsi Levy 35
Friends of the Center 36
New Membership Benefits 37
Important Reasons to Give: Why Your Contribution is a Wise Investment 38
Parking & Transportation 39

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER
September 21 • Wednesday, 7 pm LeFrak Concert Hall
Co-sponsored by the Yeshiva University Sephardic Community Program
JEWISH LECTURE SERIES
The Jewish New Year: Spiritual Inspiration for the High Holidays and Beyond – Connecting to Our Jewish Identity, the Individual, and the Community
Rabbi Moshe M. Tessone, Yeshiva University
September 28 • Wednesday, 12:15 pm Rosenthal Library, President’s Conference Room #2 (fifth floor)
JEWISH LECTURE SERIES BOOK TALK
Jewish Salonica; Between the Ottoman Empire and Modern Greece
Prof. Devin E. Naar, University of Washington

NOVEMBER
continued
November 6 • Sunday, 3 pm Goldstein Theatre
Annual Commemoration of Kristallnacht and Recommitment to Combating Anti-Semitism and Hatred
Keynote Speaker: Prof. Annette Insdorf, Columbia University
The Holocaust in American Film
November 15 • Tuesday, 7:15 pm Rosenthal Library, Room 230
JEWISH LECTURE SERIES
Prof. Jeffrey Gurock, Yeshiva University

DECEMBER
December 5 • Monday, 7:30 pm Rosenthal Library, Room 230
BIBLICAL ARCHAEOLOGY
The Three Bodies of God in the Hebrew Bible
Prof. Mark S. Smith, Princeton Theological Seminary
December 15 • Thursday, 7 pm LeFrak Concert Hall
MUSIC AND THEATER SERIES
A Chanukah Celebration
Featuring Eleanor Reissa with Frank London and his Klezmer Brass Allstars

Once again we would like to thank Mark Podwal for making available his beautiful art that graces our cover: Expulsion 1492, © 2014 by Mark Podwal, from The Terezin Portfolio.
As the new academic year gets under way, it is my great pleasure to invite you to participate in the many exciting programs lined up for the fall season at the Queens College Center for Jewish Studies.

The mission of the Center is to promote learned conversation and informed debate on the broadest range of topics concerning Jews and Judaism. Through conferences, lectures, performances, book talks, and film screenings, almost all of which are free and open to the public, the Center strives to be a bridge between the college and the wider community, making the insights of leading scholars, writers, and artists available and accessible to general audiences and specialists alike. Located in one of the most diverse neighborhoods in the U.S., the Center is uniquely poised to explore the breadth and diversity of the Jewish experience, and to that end actively pursues collaboration with local communities, organizations, and academic institutions. Among the most exciting of these efforts is the new community consortium initiative, through which the Center’s programs are brought directly into area synagogues.

The Center also encourages the academic study of Jews and Judaism through its support of the interdisciplinary Jewish Studies program at Queens College. With an internationally recognized faculty drawn from the departments of History, English, Philosophy, Sociology, Anthropology, Music, Political Science and Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures, the program offers students the opportunity to pursue both a major and a minor in Jewish Studies and enrolls hundreds of undergraduates in over thirty courses each year. Graduates regularly garner national and college-wide awards and have gone on to pursue careers in law, medicine, social work, education and the rabbinate (for more on one of our wonderful graduates, see the “Alumni Spotlight” feature in this issue).

When I began my new position last winter one of my goals was to increase student and faculty involvement in both the academic program and the Center, and I’m pleased to be able to report some early progress on both fronts. In the spring a faculty committee met to approve a much-needed overhaul of the requirements for the minor in Jewish Studies. These changes immediately generated new interest in the program and, as hoped, we’re already seeing an increase in the number of students declaring degree candidacy. Alongside these efforts, we’ve also recruited new participants for our faculty colloquium and have begun to involve QC professors...
more directly in conceiving and implementing future programs at the Center for Jewish Studies.

The Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College could not do what it does without the support of many individuals, both on and off campus. We wish to thank President Félix V. Matos Rodríguez for his keen interest in the Center and his assistance in helping us plan for the future. We also are grateful to Provost Elizabeth F. Hendrey for her enthusiasm and active participation in many of our events, and to Jeffrey Rosenstock, Assistant Vice President of External & Governmental Relations, whose steadfast support has helped make many of our programs possible.

We acknowledge as well the dedication and hard work of the Jewish Studies Advisory Board. Bernie Spear, who has served as its chair for the past four years, has provided especially vital leadership during this transitional period and has worked tirelessly to ensure that the Center will continue on a secure footing in the years to come. We are also deeply indebted to our board’s vice chair, Pearl Halegua, who continues to play a leading role in developing innovative Jewish Studies programming both at the college and in the wider community. Having more than earned the right to take it easy after serving as chair for 12 years, Arthur Anderman continues to be a devoted member of the executive committee as well as an unwavering supporter of the Center and its programs. We are truly fortunate to be able to count on him and his years of experience. Thanks are due to Elsi Levy, too, another of the stalwarts on the Center’s board of directors, whose presence is felt in every aspect of our programming. From volunteering in our office to her generous philanthropy, Elsi can always be counted on for a helping hand and a reassuring nod of support. We are grateful as well to Gary Sazer, a devoted member of the executive board, who gives generously of his time and expertise and whose steady hand has kept us on course.

Finally, I wish to thank Diane Spielmann, associate director of the Center, and our staff, Pat Tortorici and Rita Shliselberg, for their incredible dedication. Their service to the Center and the academic program is distinguished by a devotion to our students and community that goes well beyond their job descriptions and is absolutely central to our success.

We thank you, our members, too, for your support and hope that you will take a few moments to fill out the enclosed envelope and renew as a Friend of the Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College, or join us as a new member. In times like these it is imperative that the Center’s voice continue to be heard loud and clear on campus.

Very best wishes for a happy, healthy, and productive New Year.

Thanks to Our “Friends”
Your Support is Our Future

Our latest grant from the U.S. Department of Education has helped us through these difficult economic times. No doubt, however, you continue to read in the Jewish press and elsewhere that like all institutions—for profit and not-for-profit—CUNY and Queens College were seriously impacted by the recent great recession and very fragile recovery. We are carefully addressing these challenges to ensure our long-term health, but we rely on your steadfast support to enable us to continue to offer so many free programs and to play such a pivotal role in the world of Jewish Studies.

Few institutions of higher education in the United States can offer such a broad range of courses in Jewish Studies, taught by such a learned and vibrant faculty, with such talented and engaged students, on a campus where diversity and respect are so twinned. We thank you for your past support and hope you will take a few moments to fill out the enclosed envelope and join us as a new member or renew as a Friend of the Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College.

Join us and experience the reasons why we are excited and proud.
As in past years, innovation and creativity were the focus of our program planning, from the start of the academic year in the fall to its finish in the spring.

And with new beginnings each September as the academic year unfolds, so too is the coming of the Jewish Holidays. In 2015, as fall programming coincided with the start of the holidays, we opened our fall season with a spectacular performance by renowned Cantor Raphael Frieder of Temple Israel in Great Neck and acclaimed accompanist, Ronn Yedidia, DMA.

Led by Cantor Frieder, the audience was in awe as they “Listen[ed] to the Songs and the Prayers” in a “Musical Prelude to the Holidays.” The selections ranged from Yossele Rosenblatt to Leonard Bernstein, in an amalgam of traditional cantorials to popular pieces. Enthused by the ever-lively performance, the audience chimed in to each of the well-known nigunim and the popular renditions. It was a wonderful start to the New Year and the fall season!

Visceral and thought-provoking were the only words to describe our next event, The Mitzvah Project, in which accomplished actor Roger Grunwald, the son of an Auschwitz Survivor, portrayed several characters, including a soldier in Hitler’s army of mixed lineage (Jewish and non-Jewish) in his one act, one-man play co-written with Annie McGreevy.

The play was the first segment of the program capturing the attention of each onlooker with a bone-chilling performance that evoked the life of a concentration camp. But that was only the beginning of the evening: The “stage was now set” for a PowerPoint lecture based on academic research, delivered as only a seasoned actor can.* All present were riveted to Grunwald’s every word and explanation, which in turn concluded with not only a Q&A session, but a discussion fit for the academy!

For the next evening event, we went from Ireland to Spain with our next program featuring CUNY Graduate Center’s Professor Emerita Jane Gerber, one of the foremost experts on the Jews of Spain. In “Yearning and Returning: Retrieving Spanish Nationality after 500 Years,” Dr. Gerber surprised her audience with what she had to say about the recently enacted

land are run either by the Protestant or Catholic communities, where some 2,000 Jews are schooled! As we heard from Dr. Melanie Brown, director of the Dublin Jewish Oral History Project—which was created by the Jewish Representative Council of Ireland in 2011 due to its diminishing numbers—the Jewish community continues to be a part of the Irish landscape, as it has for over 1,000 years. Dr. Brown’s PowerPoint lecture, co-sponsored with the Queens College Irish Studies program, included Jewish communal life, synagogues, secular life in Dublin, and philo-Semitism and anti-Semitism in Ireland. Dr. Brown rounded out her lecture with a history, beginning with the first Jews of Ireland and leading up to the modern period. A lively and informed Q&A ensued between audience and speaker.

For the next evening event, we went from Ireland to Spain with our next program featuring CUNY Graduate Center’s Professor Emerita Jane Gerber, one of the foremost experts on the Jews of Spain. In “Yearning and Returning: Retrieving Spanish Nationality after 500 Years,” Dr. Gerber surprised her audience with what she had to say about the recently enacted

* The Mitzvah was based on academic research by military historian, Bryan Rigg, culminating in his book, Hitler’s Jewish Soldiers: The Untold Story of Nazi Racial Laws and Men of Jewish Descent in the German Military, which won the 2003 Colby Award for military history.
reinstatement of citizenship for Jews of Spanish lineage. Deftly outlining not only the cumbersome procedures for becoming a citizen as the new law prescribes, Dr. Gerber also provided the history of the Spanish government vis-à-vis the Jewish Community throughout the centuries since the Inquisition. Was this new law a “welcoming” gesture, or rather a process to limit the number of those seeking citizenship? If the latter were the case, then why would Spain even offer the citizenship? The answer was simple, one that has defined the Jewish Community within the host society for centuries: to bolster the national economy!

Archaeology and Text was the theme of the Fall 2015 Biblical Archaeology series with Prof. Elizabeth Bloch-Smith. With over 40 years of field experience, she is a faculty member of the Theology and Religious Studies Department at St. Joseph’s University in Philadelphia, where she teaches various courses on Biblical and ancient Near Eastern archaeology. In her lecture, “Archaeology and the Bible: Two Witnesses to Ancient Israel,” Dr. Bloch-Smith explained that “the book” can be compromised as an historical source seen through the lens of varying authors and editors, while archaeology presents an “unedited record.” From this perspective, along with PowerPoint notes and illustrations, she set out to demonstrate agreement between the two fields as well as “disagreements.” She proceeded by using Chronicles of the Kings of Israel, Chronicles of the Kings of Judah, and the Annals of Solomon for her text, as well as the Conquest and Settlement accounts using archaeologic remains, and demonstrated that no contemporary or substantiating archaeological evidence for Israel’s origins could be found. With that conclusion as food for thought, there was a lively exchange in the Q&A period with the audience that could have lasted all night!

Supported by the Resnick Family of Sinai Chapels, Fresh Meadows, the annual Center for Jewish Studies Kristallnacht Commemoration and Recommitment to Combating Anti-Semitism and Hatred, was a joint program with the QC Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding (CERRU), the Queens Jewish Community Council, and the Kupferberg Holocaust and Resource Center and Archives of Queensborough Community College (QCC). In memory of those who perished, as well as of the late Jewish Studies Director, Prof. Benny Kraut (son of survivors) and in tribute to the survivors, this event has come to be a hallmark of our fall programming. After greetings from Dr. Diane Spielmann and QC President Félix V. Matos-Rodríguez, we heard a moving multicultural invocation from Fr. Patrick Griffen of St. John’s University, Imam Ali Mermer, and Rabbi Robert Charnoff, the latter two both of Queens College. Then, as a special gesture of thanks to our benefactor, Michael Resnick, the Resnick Family, and Sinai Chapels, a plaque was awarded to Michael Resnick by Bernie Spear, Chair of the QC Center for Jewish Studies Advisory Board.

The keynote address was given by former Congresswoman Elizabeth Holtzman, who spearheaded the passage of the “Holtzman Amendment” in 1978 that facilitated the removal from the U.S. of those who engaged or assisted in acts of Nazi persecution.
The program included a processional of survivors who entered to instrumental music by the Townsend Harris High School Chamber Music Club, directed by Dr. Mariko Sato Berger. The survivors and the daughter of a survivor, each accompanied by a CERRU student fellow and QCC student ambassador, participated in a moving candle-lighting ceremony. The student fellows and ambassadors made a commitment to fight anti-Semitism and hatred. The program included songs by accomplished soprano Sara Kahan, accompanied by Dr. Mariko Sato Berger. The finale of all of the musicians, instrumentalists, and vocalists ended the evening in a spirit of hope.

When personal history is enmeshed within a broader history, a lecture becomes all the more intriguing for both the speaker and the audience. Such was the case when the Center presented “The Jews of Hijar Spain and Their Short-lived but Remarkable Printing Press for Hebrew Books, from 1482 until 1492,” when the Jews were expelled from Spain. Delivered by Dr. Lucia Conte Aguilar, Professor of Medieval and Jewish History at the Universitat Pompeu Fabra of Barcelona, this lecture was originally planned as a faculty colloquium, but was opened to students and the broader community. Dr. Conte Aguilar, who was born in Hijar, a small town between Madrid and Barcelona, included PowerPoint illustrations from her current research at the Jewish Theological Seminary in New York. She described how a printing press was established in Hijar by a Jew, Eliezer ben Alontansi. Eventually the press became well-known as the best in the region, with branches spreading not only within Spain but also throughout the region, including faraway Morocco and Fez, only to be dismantled a few years later in the Inquisition. Then she revealed an anecdote from her own childhood as she recalled that on several occasions she was scolded by her mother and grandmother for placing meat on a platter that was strictly reserved for dairy! Prof. Conte Aguilar noted that “during the Inquisition it was conceivable that the Jews of Hijar all became conversos” (Jews who were forced to convert and yet continued to practice Judaism in secrecy, which eventually dissipated in the generations that were to follow). Today, Dr. Conte Aguilar continues her research in more ways than one!

In a deeply philosophical lecture, Dr. Catherine Chalier, Professor Emerita of Philosophy at the University of Naterre in France, addressed “Reading the Torah” to an overflow house, which included faculty and the broader community plus at least 20 students sitting on the floor (for lack of enough chairs). As an introduction to the topic, Prof. Chalier defined both the holy books and various interpretations. She noted that with each historical period the Torah “reveals itself” to each generation, ultimately imparting its “truth” within its temporal time frame. As an example she pointed out how in earlier times women were only mentioned in the context of motherhood, or not at all, whereas as time went on there would be fuller interpretations on the subject of women. After the well received lecture, a lively Q&A period was conducted by Prof. Abi Doukhan, a member of the Jewish Studies and Philosophy faculty, who holds the Pearl and Nathan Halegua Family Professorship in Ethics and Tolerance supported by the Pearl and Nathan Halegua Family Foundation. With Dr. Doukhan’s class present, the questions from her students, as well as their dialogue with Dr. Chalier, was impressive, making us all proud of the caliber of our QC Jewish Studies students.

As the fall season began with a musical prelude to the holidays, so too the conclusion of the fall semester ended on a festive note with a “Chanukah Celebration.” And what a celebration it was, made possible by the Carole and Arthur Anderman Fund, supported by the Andermans. David Serero, international actor and star in

![Photo: Adrian Chafloque](Image)
opera, jazz, and Broadway musicals, put the audience in the mood for the holiday with his very personal and whimsical style as he entered the stage along with his talented accompanist on piano, Noriko Sunamoto. Within seconds of their entry, the audience was enthralled and ready to join in the fun and laughter. David’s musical renditions included “New York, New York,” “Old Man River,” and “Rock of Ages” (sung in Hebrew), not to mention a series of international songs in a myriad of languages. And as the one-hour show was winding down, David called for six volunteers from the audience to join him in his final number. Queens College’s own Sara Kahan, an accomplished soprano, along with five other volunteers in a jovial mood joined in to cap the afternoon’s festivities, followed by a meet-and-greet reception amidst potato latkes and soufganiot (traditional Sephardi Chanukah treats better known to the rest of us as “jelly donuts”). It was indeed a “Happy Chanukah” for all.

After the winter hiatus, the Center’s Spring offerings kicked off with the screening of “Orange People.” Written, directed, and starring Hanna Azoulay Hasfari, the colorful film portrayed four generations of Moroccan Jewish women in contemporary Israel. As the various plots unfolded within the four-generation span, viewers were given both a cultural and historical overview of Moroccan Jewry, enhanced by the commentary given by QC Associate Professor Sami Shetrit, a Moroccan-born Jew raised in Israel who now teaches Hebrew in the Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures Department. Prof. Shetrit is a film producer himself as well as a writer of poetry and prose. While the ensuing Q&A period focused on the history of Moroccan Jewry and issues regarding the status of women in that ever-changing society, the artistic theme was also highlighted in the spirited discussion.

The next program opened with lessons of history and memory filled with passion and poignant moments, all part of the book talk based on the memoir The Strangers We Became: Lessons in Exile from One of Iraq’s Last Jews, by Dr. Cynthia Kaplan Shamash. Her dynamic presentation began with the history that had existed in Iraq for more than 2,000 years, and its demise in 2003 when a trove of Iraqi Jewish documentation was discovered by the U.S. military in war-torn Iraq and came to be known as the Iraqi Jewish Archive, now temporarily housed in Washington, DC. Dr. Shamash made history come alive by providing comparative statistics of the percentage of Jews living in historic Baghdad vs. New York today; surprisingly, that ancient statistic was double of that of contemporary New York! And then surprise turned to shock as Dr. Shamash, reading from her memoir, related the story of when she was a nine-year-old girl, arrested in 1971 along with her entire family and incarcerated for several weeks for alleged espionage as Zionists. Single out by the Iraqi police, young Cynthia was separated from her family while clutching a doll her father had just given her. During the course of interrogating Cynthia, the policeman took her doll and dismembered it, looking for recordings of Zionist activities. Becoming ever more frustrated at not finding any evidence, he finally gave up as Cynthia picked up the pieces of her broken doll. And then came the gasps from the audience as Dr. Shamash held up that very doll with blond hair and no limbs. The doll symbolized not only her experiences but also the memory of her father who died one year later while the family was exiled in Holland. As she continued the chronicle of her odyssey through four countries before coming to America as a young accomplished adult, one could sense the pathos, pain, and emotional upheaval that touched the audience as well as recognition of her strength of...
character. Finally, she surprised each of us as she turned the program over to her friend Frannie Faith Southworth, who sang a beautifully touching song entitled “Home.” And that said it all for history internalized.

On the first day of spring “A Purim Spiel” brought over 300 people to Queens College for a presentation by the National Yiddish Theatre Folksbiene of The Megile of Itzik Manger, hosted by the Center for Jewish Studies and supported by Councilman Rory Lancman. With the distinguished and original cast of 2013 along with Dmitri Zisl Slepovitch on piano and producer/director Motl Didner, the production—a staged musical reading—was a huge success! The Yiddish rendition (with supertitles in English and Russian) reflected the genius of Itzik Manger, in his ability to transpose the original Megile into the setting of Eastern Europe this past century, updated with lyrics by Shmuel Bunim, Haim Hefer, and Dov Seltzer, prize-winning contemporary Israeli composer.

Throughout the performance there were “cheers” for Folksbiene and “jeers” for Haman! After the performance the merriment continued in a fitting reception with hamantaschen.

A highlight of the 2015–2016 year programming was a series of events related to The Terezin Portfolio by internationally renowned artist Mark Podwal, donated by him to Queens College. The 42 prints of the Portfolio are a disturbing reminder of how Europe’s extensive history of anti-Semitism laid the groundwork for Terezin and Auschwitz, with each piece of artwork resembling a book’s pages. In addition, Mark Podwal paired every image with biblical verses from the Book of Psalms, followed by his own written commentary.

The first event was the opening of the on-campus exhibition of the prints on April 4 at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum, followed by a reception for the public on April 7, co-sponsored by the Museum and the Center for Jewish Studies, supported by Dr. Roslyn Gold and Family on the first yahrzeit of husband and father Simon Gold.

The opening reception featured Mark Podwal in a conversation with Director/Curator Dr. Amy Winter of the Godwin-Ternbach Museum. And what a conversation it was, with Amy bringing out the many facets of the artist’s life, including his student days at Queens College, his creative drive, the study of Judaism, and the impact of religion as well as of history. The intriguing and sometimes surprising questions and answers were compelling for the full-house audience, including QC President Félix V. Matos Rodríguez and Mark Podwal’s former Queens College classmate and lifelong friend Barry Bryer, currently chair of the Queens College Foundation.

The celebration of Dr. Podwal’s work continued on April 14 with a...
panel discussion: “Anti-Semitism from Antiquity to the 20th Century,” held in the Museum and co-sponsored by the Center for Jewish Studies. Prior to the panel there was an exclusive reception for the esteemed board members of both the Museum and the Center. Dr. Matos Rodriguez was in attendance, along with Museum Director Amy Winter and Director of Jewish Studies Arnold Franklin. Following the reception, the general public was also invited to hear the panel on anti-Semitism throughout history, presented by renowned scholars in each of their fields of expertise. The panel was moderated by David Kraemer, the Joseph J. and Dora Abbell Librarian and Professor of Talmud & Rabbinic Studies from the Jewish Theological Seminary. The distinguished panelists included Steven Fine, the Dr. Pinkhos Churgin Professor of Jewish History at Yeshiva University, who discussed Jews & Judaism in the Roman Empire; Robert Chazan, the S.H. & Helen R. Scheuer Professor of Holocaust Studies, at New York University’s Skirball Center for Hebraic & Jewish Studies, who spoke on Medieval Jewish History; and Elissa Bemporad, the Jerry & William Ungar Professor in Eastern European Jewish History & the Holocaust at Queens College, who concluded with Modern Jewish European Studies. Each of the speakers held the attention of the audience with intriguing facts and at times surprising commentary on the history of anti-Semitism, with multiple references to Dr. Podwal’s depictions within his Terezin Portfolio.

As has now become “tradition,” the Center for Jewish Studies on-campus Spring programming ends with a lecture in observance of Yom HaShoah, a program endowed by Celina and Marvin Zborowski, survivors of the Holocaust, and so, too, it was this year. The Zborowskis and Marvin’s late brother Eli, with whom he survived in Poland, have been instrumental in ensuring remembrance at Queens College and beyond. The commemoration is one of the most solemn events sponsored by the Center in tribute to the survivors, and in memory of those who did not survive. This year, featuring Prof. Joshua Zimmerman, the Eli and Diana Zborowski Chair in Holocaust Studies and East European Jewish History at Yeshiva University, the lecture in many ways symbolically reunited the Zborowski brothers in spirit. Prof. Zimmerman’s presentation was based on his latest book, The Polish Underground & the Jews 1939–1945, a
scholarly work that recounts the heroic stories of rescue of Jews by Poles in significant numbers along with the flip side—the notorious atrocities committed by other Poles. With 100 attendees, including a significant number of survivors and children of survivors in attendance, the Q&A period that followed was intense.

Spring programming also included off-site events through the expanding Synagogue Consortium of Queens and Nassau Counties in collaboration with the Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College. Two such programs served as “bookends” to the 2016 Spring season:


To close the season, the Hillcrest Jewish Center held a breakfast lecture to showcase Prof. Arnold Franklin, not only to meet and greet him as the newly appointed Director of the QC Center for Jewish Studies but also for his expertise in history. In his lecture, “Messy History: How the Cairo Geniza Has Complicated Our View of the Past,” Prof. Franklin explained how the Cairo Geniza, a remarkable trove of medieval Jewish manuscripts, came to light at the end of the 19th century. Altogether the Geniza contained a staggering 300,000 pages, including autograph masterpieces by such authors as Moses Maimonides and Judah Halevi, as well as thousands of letters and documents reflecting the daily lives of ordinary Jews—all of which has transformed modern thinking about the past.

In summary, the 2015–2016 academic year at the Queens College Center for Jewish Studies in its expanding programs touched audiences through historical interpretations, discoveries, and presentation of the best in culture and the arts.
Additional Highlights from Our Past Season

Musical interlude at the Kristallnacht Commemoration, played by the Townsend Harris High School Student Ensemble, directed by Dr. Mariko Sato Berger, teacher of music and Japanese.

Children enjoying the Purim Party entertainment.

David Serero (right) and Noriko Sunamoto at the piano, with six audience volunteers, including QC’s Sara Kahan (standing, second from left) at the annual Chanukah Celebration.

Hannah Deutsch, a “kinder transport” survivor and British Army veteran, leading the Pledge of Allegiance at the annual Kristallnacht Commemoration.

Dr. Cynthia Kaplan Shamash meets a fellow escapee from Iraq who attended her book talk.
The Jewish New Year: Spiritual Inspiration for the High Holidays and Beyond

Connecting to Our Jewish Identity, the Individual, and the Community

RABBI MOSHE M. TESSONE, YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

September 21, Wednesday, 7 pm | LeFrak Concert Hall | Free and open to the public.

Rabbi Moshe Tessone is Director of the Sephardic Community Program and a distinguished faculty member at Yeshiva University, where he teaches Jewish Studies. He also is an instructor of Sephardic cantillation and liturgy at the YU-affiliated Belz School of Jewish Music.

Rabbi Tessone has toured extensively throughout North and South America, Europe, and Israel both as a rabbinic speaker on topics of Jewish and Sephardic interest, including Sephardic history and Jewish education, as well as Torah-related subjects. He also has toured as a concert soloist performing Sephardic and cantorial music featuring Judeo-Arabic and Judeo-Spanish religious song and liturgy.

He received his rabbinic ordination from Yeshiva University’s Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary. He is a graduate of New York University’s Stern School of Business, and received his master’s degree in Jewish Education and administration from Yeshiva University.

Moshe Tessone released his debut Sephardic album/CD, entitled Odeh La’ El, in 2005. Hakshiva, an album of original Jewish Sephardic music, was released in 2006.

In addition to his talk, Rabbi Tessone will be accompanied on piano for a selection of appropriate cantorials.

This program has been made possible by Esi Levy, endowed by the Levy Family.

Co-sponsored by the Yeshiva University Sephardic Community Program.

For LeFrak Concert Hall, there is free parking in Lot 15 on Reeves Ave. (behind the Music Building) and easy elevator access from street level to the main floor of the Music Building.
JEWISH LECTURE SERIES BOOK TALK

Jewish Salonica: Between the Ottoman Empire and Modern Greece

PROF. DEVIN E. NAAR, UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON

September 28, Wednesday, 12:15 pm | Free and open to the public.
Rosenthal Library | President’s Conference Room #2 (fifth floor)

Author Devin E. Naar, the Isaac Alhadeff Professor of Sephardic Studies and Associate Professor of History and Jewish Studies at the University of Washington–Seattle, traveled to Salonica, Jerusalem, and Moscow, where he discovered previously unstudied archives written in Ladino, Greek, French, and Hebrew.

His research reveals how Salonica’s Jews sought to transform themselves from Ottoman Jews into Hellenic Jews during an era of rising nationalism and economic crisis. In the process, they reinvigorated their connection and claimed it as their own until the Holocaust. Through the case of Salonica, Naar recovers the diverse experiences of a lost religious, linguistic and national minority at the crossroads of Europe and the Middle East.

A groundbreaking book, Jewish Salonica recounts the fate of the Jews of Salonica (Thessaloniki), once home to the largest Sephardic Jewish community in the world and known as the “Jerusalem of the Balkans.” Highlighting the voices of Salonican Jews, the book explores the tumultuous experience of rupture and transition from the Ottoman Empire to modern Greece during the early 20th century.

After the lecture, followed by a Q&A period, Jewish Salonica will be offered for sale at a discount by the author. Cash and checks will be accepted.

Light refreshments will be available.

RSVP: 718-997-5730 or 718-997-4530 or email rita.shliselberg@qc.cuny.edu.

Paid parking is available in the Student Union; for information on parking call 718-997-3964.

Please see page 39 for travel directions to Queens College.
The Chosen People in an Age of Political Correctness

RABBI HAYYIM ANGEL

October 27, Thursday, 7 pm
Rosenthal Library | Room 230 | Free and open to the public

The concept of Israel being God’s Chosen People is central to Jewish thought, yet it is often a tragically misunderstood concept by Jews and non-Jews alike. These misunderstandings have led to unnecessary chauvinism and tension. This lecture turns to the biblical roots of the concept to express a vision that is simultaneously particularistic and universalistic.

Rabbi Hayyim Angel is the National Scholar of the Institute for Jewish Ideas and Ideals (jewishideas.org). He also teaches advanced Bible courses to undergraduate, graduate, and rabbinical students at Yeshiva University, and lectures widely. Rabbi Angel serves as the Rabbinic Scholar at Congregation Kehilath Jeshurun in New York. He has published over 120 scholarly articles, primarily on biblical subjects, and is the author or editor of 14 books. He received his BA in Jewish Studies, summa cum laude, from Yeshiva College, his MA in Bible from the Bernard Revel Graduate School, his MS in Jewish Education from the Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education, and his rabbinical ordination from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary of Yeshiva University. He lives in New York with his wife and three children.

Presented by the Annual Leon and Morris Levy Memorial Lecture, endowed by the Levy Family.

The Queens College Center for Jewish Studies is deeply grateful to Elsi Levy and her family for their generosity and dedication to Queens College and the Center for Jewish Studies throughout the years.

Please see page 39 for travel directions to Queens College and parking directions for Rosenthal Library.
**Images of Jews in the Early Age of Print**

ELISHEVA CARLEBACH, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

November 1, Tuesday, 6 pm
Rosenthal Library | Room 230 | Free and open to the public

Elisheva Carlebach. Salo Baron Professor of Jewish History, Culture, and Society at Columbia University, specializes in the cultural, intellectual, and religious history of the Jews in Early Modern Europe. Areas of particular interest include the intersection of Jewish and Christian culture and its effect on notions of tolerance, religious dissent, conversion, messianism, and communal governance. Her books include *The Pursuit of Heresy* (1990), awarded the National Jewish Book Award; *Divided Souls: Converts from Judaism in Early Modern Germany* (2000), and *Palaces of Time: Jewish Calendar and Culture in Early Modern Europe* (2011), awarded the Schnitzer Award by the Association for Jewish Studies. She has twice held fellowships from the National Endowment for the Humanities, and served as a Fellow at the New York Public Library Center for Scholars and Writers, Tikvah Fellow at NYU Law School, and a Fellow at the Katz Center for Advanced Judaic Studies in Philadelphia. She also served as Editor of the *Association for Jewish Studies Review* and chaired the Academic Advisory Council of the Center for Jewish History. She is immediate past President of the American Academy for Jewish Research.

Professor Carlebach will present a variety of printed images of Jews from the first decades of print technology, and will discuss the role of these images in the business of print culture in its earliest stages.

Seating is limited. RSVP to 718-997-2920 or email rsvp.dev@qc.cuny.edu.

Please see page 39 for travel directions to Queens College and parking directions for Rosenthal Library.
**A Mobile People in a Dynamic City: New York Jews in the 20th–21st Century**

**PROF. JEFFREY S. GUROCK, YESHIVA UNIVERSITY**

November 15, Tuesday, 7:15 pm

Rosenthal Library, Room 230 | Free and open to the public.

Jeffrey S. Gurock is the Libby M. Klaperman Professor of Jewish History at Yeshiva University. A leading scholar in the field of American Jewish history, he was twice the chair of the Academic Council of the American Jewish Historical Society. He is the author or editor of 18 books including *Jews in Gotham: New York Jews in a Changing City, 1920–2010*, which was awarded the National Jewish Book Award from the Jewish Book Council in 2013.


In celebration of the appearance of his latest book, *The Jews of Harlem*, Prof. Gurock will discuss the forces that have led NY Jews to settle, persist, abandon and return to New York neighborhoods over the course of the last century.

A book signing will follow the lecture, with books offered at a discounted price.

Please see page 39 for travel directions to Queens College and parking directions for Rosenthal Library.
ANNUAL KRISTALLNACHT COMMEMORATION

Annual Commemoration of Kristallnacht and Recommitment to Combating Anti-Semitism and Hatred

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

The Holocaust in American Film
With Film Clips from the Speaker
PROF. ANNETTE INSDORF, COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

November 6, Sunday, 3–5 pm | Goldstein Theatre | Free and open to the public.

Dr. Insdorf is the author of Double Lives, Second Chances: The Cinema of Krzysztof Kieslowski; François Truffaut, a study of the French director’s work; and the landmark study, Indelible Shadows: Film and the Holocaust (with a foreword by the late Elie Wiesel). For the updated third edition she received the National Board of Review’s William K. Everson Award in Film History in 2003. Her most recent book is Philip Kaufman, which film critic Leonard Maltin called “a thoughtful, scholarly study of one of America’s most underrated filmmakers.”

Prof. Insdorf has served as a juror at international film festivals, including Berlin, Galway, Locarno, and Jerusalem, and is the panel moderator at the annual Telluride Film Festival in Colorado. In her popular “Reel Pieces” series at the Manhattan 92nd Street Y, she has interviewed over 200 film celebrities. Her commentaries on prominent filmmakers can be heard on DVD.

The program will include a candle-lighting ceremony with Holocaust survivors and subsequent generations, including the Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding, who will carry the torch for remembrance and commitment to combat Anti-Semitism and Hatred. In addition there will be a multicultural invocation and musical interludes.

Presented by the Resnick Family and Sinai Chapels, Fresh Meadows, Queens, NY.

Sinai Chapels

Organized by Queens College’s Center for Jewish Studies and the Center for Ethnic, Racial & Religious Understanding, the Queens Jewish Community Council, Kupferberg Holocaust Research Center and Archives at Queensborough Community College, and others.

For Goldstein Theatre, there is free parking in Lot 15 on Reeves Avenue (behind the Music Building). Walk east to the corner of Kissena Boulevard and the Long Island Expressway to enter the campus for the Goldstein Theatre.
The Three Bodies of God in the Hebrew Bible

PROF. MARK S. SMITH, PRINCETON THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

December 5, Monday, 7:30 pm | Rosenthal Library, Room 230
Admission for open seating $5. For further information, call 718-997-5730 or 4530.


Mark S. Smith is Helena Professor of Old Testament Literature and Exegesis at Princeton Theological Seminary and formerly Skirball Professor of Hebrew Bible and Ancient Near Eastern Studies at New York University. He was a two-time winner of NYU’s Golden Dozen Award for excellence in undergraduate teaching. Earlier he taught at Yale and Saint Joseph’s University. Prof. Smith also served as visiting professor at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome and at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem.

Please see page 39 for travel directions to Queens College and parking directions for Rosenthal Library.
MUSIC & THEATER PERFORMANCE SERIES

A Chanukah Celebration

FEATURING ELEANOR REISSA
with Frank London and his Klezmer Brass Allstars

December 15, Thursday, 7 pm | LeFrak Concert Hall | Free and open to the public.

A reception to meet and greet the performers with refreshments will follow the performance. CDs will also be available for purchase from the artists.

Eleanor Reissa, the soulful, dynamic diva of the Yiddish stage, along with Grammy Award-winning musician, Frank London and his Klezmer Brass Allstars will thrill you with a rich evening of fun in music, song, and laughter!

Eleanor Reissa is a Tony Award-nominated director, an Israel Prize-nominated musical-theatre adapter, and an award-winning playwright, choreographer, actor, and internationally renowned singer. She has lived a life in the theatre, and her career is unique in its depth and breadth: Former Artistic Director of the Folksbiene Theatre, she also received an honorary chair at Colgate University, where she directed and choreographed The Threepenny Opera. She has sung in Carnegie Hall, Town Hall, Skirball Center as well as Drom and The Stone and in festivals all over the world. An anthology of her work, The Last Survivor and Other Modern Jewish Plays has just been published. It covers and presents the gems of Jewish culture.

Sir Frank London is a Grammy Award-winning trumpeter, composer, co-founder of the Klezmatics, leader of the Glass House Orchestra, Sharabi, Shekhinah Big Band, Hasidic New Wave, and his Klezmer Brass Allstars. He has been called the “mystical high priest of New Wave Avant-Klez jazz.” He has performed and recorded over 400 CDs with artists from Itzak Perlman to John Zorn. Artistic Director of KlezKanada and co-organizer of Yiddish New York, he uses his knowledge of the music’s traditions to “show a way for people to embrace Yiddish culture on their own terms as a living, breathing part of our world and its political and aesthetic landscape.” He received the Hungarian Order of Merit knighthood for his work in Jewish music.

This program has been made possible through the Carole and Arthur Anderman Fund, supported by the Andermans. The Queens College Center for Jewish Studies (Center) is deeply grateful to Carole and Arthur (Advisory Board Chair Emeritus) for their generosity and dedication to Queens College and the Center throughout the years.

RSVP: 718-997-5730 or 718-997-4530 or email rita.shliselberg@qc.cuny.edu.

For LeFrak Concert Hall, there is free parking in Lot 15 on Reeves Avenue (behind the Music Building) and easy elevator access from street level to the main floor of the Music Building.
The Queens College Center for Jewish Studies Speakers Bureau has been established as a public service to the community to foster learning and education about Jews and their culture. Supplementing the center’s numerous, varied, and rich cultural programs on the campus, the Speakers Bureau seeks to serve organizations and agencies that wish to sponsor stimulating, appealing programs for their members in the community. Its faculty resources are also available to educational institutions, such as high schools and colleges.

The Speakers Bureau is composed of outstanding faculty members from Queens College who are associated with the Jewish Studies Program on campus. Many are award-winning scholars, teachers, and internationally recognized figures whose opinions on historical and contemporary issues are much sought after by academicians and laypeople alike. They are specialists in Jewish history, sociology, philosophy, political science, music, media, and language and literature.

Specific subject areas in which they will speak include:
- American Judaism
- Anti-Semitism
- Biblical Studies
- Hasidism
- Hebrew Language, Literature, and Culture
- Holocaust: History, Film, Literature, and Theology
- Zionism
- Contemporary Israel
- American-Israeli Relations
- Israel-Arab Conflict and Peacemaking
- Jews and Film
- Jewish-Christian Relations
- Jewish History: Ancient, Medieval, and Modern
- East European Jewry
- German Jewry
- Sephardi Jewish History and Culture
- American Jewry
- New York City
- Jewish Humor
- Jewish Labor Movement
- American Jewish Literature
- Jewish Music/Jews and Music
- Jewish Thought, Philosophy, and Messianism
- Women in Judaism and Jewish Life
- Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture

PARTICIPATING FACULTY

In addition to its own faculty, the Queens College Center for Jewish Studies annually hosts visiting faculty from the United States and abroad who may also be available to participate in the Speakers Bureau. Please keep in mind that faculty also go on leave from time to time and may be unavailable.

For updates on available speakers, please call the Jewish Studies Office, 718-997-4530, or consult the center’s website, www.qc.cuny.edu/centerforjewishstudies. Speakers must be booked at least six weeks in advance.
The faculty associated with Jewish Studies at Queens College are exceptional scholars and award-winning teachers. Some of their highlights are listed below.

RIKKI ASHER  
Secondary Education  
is the recipient of the New York City Higher Education Art Educator of the Year Award from the New York City Art Teachers Association (NYCATA), which was presented to her in a ceremony at MoMA. Dr. Asher lectured in Baltimore at the National Art Education Association conference, “When Women Pursue Justice,” giving a talk about a mural project in Bedford-Stuyvesant, Brooklyn in honor of Shirley Chisholm and other women activists. Together with Prof. Mark Rosenblum and Dr. Amy Winter, Dr. Asher also co-curated “Windows and Mirrors: Reflections on the War in Afghanistan,” which was exhibited at the Godwin-Ternbach Museum at Queens College, Dec. 2010–Jan. 2011.

ELISSA BEMPORAD  
History  
is an Assistant Professor of History and occupies the Jerry and William Ungar Chair in East European Jewish History and the Holocaust at QC. She teaches a variety of courses on Russian and Eastern European Jews, women and gender, and genocide. She is the 2015–2016 National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) Senior Scholar at the Center for Jewish History in Manhattan. Her first book, Becoming Soviet Jews: The Bolshevik Experiment in Minsk (IUP, 2013), won the 2013 National Jewish Book Award, the Frankel Prize in Contemporary History, and the Felix Gross Prize, and received an honorable mention for the Jordan Schnitzer Prize in Modern Jewish History. She is now working on a book entitled Legacy of Blood: Jews, pogroms, and ritual murder in the lands of the soviets, to be published by Oxford University Press. She also is co-editing, with Prof. Joyce Warren, a volume on women and the gendered experience of genocide during the 20th century (Indiana University Press). In Spring 2016, she presented her work at Stanford and at Brandeis University. During the Fall of 2016, she will be a fellow at the Jack, Joseph, and Morton Mandel Center for Advanced Holocaust Studies in Washington, DC.

THOMAS E. BIRD  
European Languages & Literatures  
was a faculty member in a National Endowment for the Humanities Institute at Columbia University; the 2013 theme was “America’s Russophone Refugees and Immigrants, 1917 to the Present.” In the summer of 2012 he became Associate Editor, then Acting Editor, of Yiddish/Modern Jewish Studies. In July 2012 Prof. Bird was interviewed by Belarusian State TV on “The Belarusian Presence in Queens,” and in August he chaired the symposium, “Soviet Yiddish Writers” at the YIVO Institute in Manhattan. In November he served as the Queens College chapter delegate to the 43rd Phi Beta Kappa Triennial meeting in Florida, and the Institute of Current World Affairs in Washington, DC, elected him to membership. As a panelist (with Prof. Elissa Bemporad and Rabbi Moshe Shur), Prof. Bird spoke about “The Theological Background of The Dybbuk”—part of a celebration of the QC Drama Dept.’s presentation of Sh. Ansky’s play. He also was named to the Advisory Board of the European Humanities University in Vilnius, Lithuania (together with Prof. Evan Zimroth). At the college he gave a presentation at the Jewish Studies Faculty Seminar entitled “Mendele, Chagall, and Me.” In December he was re-elected to the Board of Directors of the North American Association for Belarusian Studies. He lectured about “The Amazing World of Yiddish” at the Elmont Jewish Center. In April of 2013 he chaired the Belarusian Panel at the annual conference of the Association of Nationalities at Columbia University.

FRANCESCA BREGOLI  
History  
is an Associate Professor of History and the Joseph and Oro Halegua Professor of Greek and Sephardic Studies. Her research focuses on the cultural and social history of Italian and Western Sephardi Jews during the 18th century. Currently she is working on a project about kinship and emotional ties in a Jewish family with members in various Mediterranean ports. During the past academic year, Prof. Bregoli served as acting director of the Center for Jewish Studies at the CUNY Graduate Center. She presented her
research at Ohio State University, the Huntington Library, and the University of California–Irvine. She is the author of *Mediterranean Enlightenment: Livornese Jews, Tuscan Culture, and Eighteenth-Century Reform* (Stanford University Press, 2014, finalist for the National Jewish Book Award in the categories of Sephardic Studies and Writing Based on Archival Materials). She is currently co-editing, with David Ruderman, *Connecting Histories: Jews and Their Others in the Early Modern Period* for Penn Press. Additionally, she is a book review editor for the *AJS Review*.

**SAMI S. CHETRIT**
Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures
is advisor and coordinator of the Hebrew language program. A Moroccan-born Jew raised in Israel, he writes and publishes poetry, prose, and research, and produces documentary films. Dr. Chetrit’s book, *Intra-Jewish Conflict in Israel: White Jews, Black Jews*, was published by Routledge (London and New York, 2009). His other recent books are *Yehudim (Jews)*, a poetry book released by Nahar Books (Israel, 2008), and *Ein Habuba (Doll’s Eye)*, a novel (Hargol-Am Oved Publishers, Israel, 2007). A forthcoming book project is about the Mizrahi voice in Israeli poetry. In 2009 Dr. Chetrit finished his second documentary film, *Azi Ayima (Come, Mother, Israel)*, about his mother’s classmates in Morocco 60 years ago. The film was selected for the 2009 DocAviv and Darom film festivals in Israel. His first film, which he wrote and co-directed, *The Black Panthers (in Israel) Speak* (Israel, 2003), is about the Israeli Mizrahi social uprising during the 1970s. It was selected to be shown at many festivals around the world. His next film project will explore the concept of Jewish statehood throughout Jewish history.

**HARRIET DAVIS KRAM**
History
is working on a revision of *No More a Stranger and Alone*, a study of immigrant Jewish women during the Progressive Era. She published an article on the Clara de Hirsch Home (1897–1927), and is completing a study on “The Inmates of the Clara de Hirsch Home.” She lectures widely on behalf of the Center for Jewish Studies at communal organizations, and also lectures for the New York Council for the Humanities, which has listed her as one of its “star lecturers.” Two of her popular lectures include “Jewish Communal Organizations” and “Rebels in Red Kerchiefs” about Jewish women activists in the U.S. and Eastern Europe from the late-19th century through the end of World War I.

**ABIGAIL DOUKHAN**
Philosophy
is an Assistant Professor of Philosophy and holds the Pearl and Nathan Halegua Family Professorship in Ethics and Tolerance, supported by the Pearl and Nathan Halegua Family Foundation. This past year, Prof. Doukhan co-organized an international philosophy conference around the theme of the “Redemption of Feeling” at Queens College with philosophy colleague Anthony Malagon. International Emmanuel Levinas and Jewish Studies scholar Catherine Chalier was among the keynotes invited to speak along with International Garbriel Marcel scholar Brendan Sweetman. Prof. Doukhan also was invited to present a keynote address at the University of Cauca in Popayan, Colombia this past November, where she presented her most recent work on Levinas’ epistemology. She has a forthcoming book with Routledge entitled *Biblical Portraits of Exile*, scheduled for release in 2016.

**LIBA H. ENGEL**
Elementary & Early Childhood Education

**ARNOLD FRANKLIN**
History
is Associate Professor of History and Director of the Jewish Studies program and Center for Jewish Studies. His research focuses on Jewish social, political, and intellectual life in the medieval Islamic world. His article, “Untidy
History: Reassessing Communal Boundaries in Light of the Cairo Geniza Documents,” appeared in Age of Transition: Byzantine Culture in the Islamic World, Helen Evans, ed. (Yale University Press, 2015). He also authored an article on the medieval Iraqi scholar Aaron Ibn Sarjado that was published in the Encyclopedia of the Bible and its Reception (De Gruyter). In March he gave a talk at the Institute for Advanced Study in Princeton on his book, This Noble House, and in April he spoke at Brandeis University about his research on David ben Joshua Maimuni.

NORA GLICKMAN
Hispanic Languages & Literatures and CUNY Graduate Center
is Associate Editor of Modern Jewish Studies, with a special issue devoted to Hispanic Jewish Literature (2007); co-editor of the Latin American Jewish Studies Association Bulletin and member of its Executive Board; and President of the American Association of Professors of Yiddish. She organized a LAJSA Colloquium at the Graduate Center on “The Current State of Latin American Ashkenazi and Sephardic Studies” (2007). Her publications include a selection of monologues in Claves para el teatro de Nora Glickman (2007) and film reviews. Her book reviews include “El tiempo y las palabras: Literature y cultura Judeo-hispanoamericana contemporáneas.” Steve Sadow, ed., in LAJSA Bulletin Vol. 27, 2, 2008; “Paula Varsavsky, El resto de su vida,” in Hispanamerica, 2007; “Moshe Liba, Dos Pinteley Yid,” in LAJSA Bulletin, Vol. 28, 1, Spring 2008; and “Angelina Muniz-Huberman, La burladora de Toledo,” in World Literature Today. Her monologues were performed at the Center for Jewish History, NY (2007); her latest play Preludes and monologue Lot’s Wife were performed at the Hasimta Theatre in Jerusalem in 2008. Dr. Glickman received a PSC/CUNY Award in 2007–08. She has lectured on Latin American Jewish cinema and theatre, and has read from her short stories at various public institutions and Jewish centers.

SAMUEL HEILMAN
Sociology
was awarded the highest university rank of Distinguished Professor by CUNY and won the Marshall Sklare Memorial Award for his lifetime of scholarship from the Association for the Social Scientific Study of Jewry. He is the Harold Proshansky Chair in Jewish Studies at the Graduate Center, and also serves as the Editor-in-Chief of Contemporary Jewry, the premiere scholarly journal on the social scientific study of Jewry. He is the Harold Proshansky Chair in Jewish Studies at the Graduate Center, and also serves as the Editor-in-Chief of Contemporary Jewry, the premiere scholarly journal on the social scientific study of Jewry. Recently he published The Rebbe: The Life and Afterlife of Menachem Mendel Schneerson, co-authored with Menachem Friedman (Princeton, 2010), which won the National Jewish Book Award. In addition, Prof. Heilman gave the keynote address at the Bar-Ilan University Conference on Cultural Vitality and Jewish Education. He lectures widely on various topics, including an extensive interview on Religion and Ethics with PBS focusing on the difficulties of leaving the ultra-Orthodox Jewish community. This past year he lectured as a Fulbright Senior Specialist in Poland, delivering talks at the University of Wroclaw, Warsaw University, Jagellonian University (Krakow), as well as in South Africa. At the end of the year he presented “Generations and Succession in Hasidism: New Aspects” at the annual meeting of the Association for Jewish Studies in Boston.

LEO HERSHKOWITZ
History
has centered much of his work on the study of the early pre-19th-century Jewish community of New York City and has lectured widely on this subject to various groups, including the Jewish Historical Society of England and the American Jewish Historical Society. He also has published extensively in the publications of the American Jewish Archives, American Jewish Historical Society, and the Holland Society’s de Halve Maen, and is presently working on a study of Jews in 1790 in New York City. He mostly uses primary archival sources, thereby presenting new and challenging interpretations of the history of this period. In recognition of his efforts, he was awarded the prestigious Lee Max Friedman Award by the American Jewish Historical Society in 2008 and an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters in 2006 from the Hebrew Institute of Religion as a “beloved professor of History, Conscientious Teacher . . . whose scholarly research and writing have given the academic world an appreciation for and a deeper understanding of the presence and contributions of Jew
in the days of New Amsterdam until the present day.”

SARI KISILEVSKY
Philosophy
is Assistant Professor of Philosophy. Previously she held the Pearl and Nathan Halegua Chair in Ethics and Tolerance. In addition to her affiliation with Jewish Studies at Queens College, Prof. Kisilevsky is a scholar with CUNY School of Law, where she teaches philosophy of law, political philosophy, and ethics. She received the Faculty Publication Program Fellowship Award for the Spring 2011 semester, and the college’s President’s Award for Innovative Teaching in 2010. Additional achievements include Force and Freedom: Workshop on Arthur Ripstein’s Force and Freedom: Kant’s Moral and Legal Philosophy, organized with Martin Stone, Cardozo/New School and presentation of Lon Fuller’s The Case of the Speluncean Explorer to the Honors in Social Science 200. She served as Program Committee Chair (with Jonathan Peterson, University of Toronto) of Philosophy of Law and Social and Political Philosophy for the 2010 Congress of the Canadian Philosophical Association. In 2011 she presented “Security, Liberty, and Procedural Justice: Rethinking the Balance,” at Nassau Community College, and “Easy Cases and Social Sources: Toward a New Defense of Legal Positivism,” at The Nature of Law: Contemporary Perspectives, MacMaster University, Hamilton, Ontario, Canada. She contributed a paper for “Equity, Necessity and the Rule of Law,” Proceedings of the 10th International Kant Congress, published by de Gruyter Publishers, Berlin.

STEVEN KRUGER
English

CHAVA LAPIN
Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures
continues to teach and lecture to academic and public-interest audiences about the cultural and literary traditions of Eastern European Jewry and the flowering of that legacy in more recent times. In Spring 2008 she presented “The Power of the Proverb” to the International Resources Center at the Queensborough Public Library, and in 2009 she gave a lecture entitled “Loishn un Shteyger” (Language and Lifestyle) to a broad array of participants in a four-day EPYC conference at the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research. Her recent publications include “The Unknown Folk Poet—A Lamentation on the Holocaust,” an analysis of the hitherto unknown and unpublished poetry of Felix Horn, a survivor who describes for the first time, in verse, the destruction of Mogielnica and his personal saga in Vol. CXII of Die Zukunft, a 112-year-old literary Yiddish journal (the oldest extant to this day). She also conducted a week of advanced classes in Yiddish language and literature (in Yiddish) and focused on the 150th birthday of Sholem Aleichem for the Jewish Cultural Experience at Circle Lodge, Sylvan Lake, NY.

KRISTINA RICHARDSON
History
recently had her book, Difference and Disability in the Medieval Islamic World: Blighted Bodies (Edinburgh University Press, 2012) issued in paperback (2014). The book also was distributed in North America by Columbia University Press. For the 2014–2015 academic year, she served as a postdoctoral researcher at the University of Bonn in Germany, where she worked on an autograph manuscript from historians of 15th- and 16th-century Mamluk and Ottoman Syria. Prof. Richardson recently completed a two-year fellowship (2012–2014) from the Gerda Henkel Foundation, based in Düsseldorf, Germany. She also worked at the Institut für Arabistik und Islamwissenschaft in Münster, Germany, where she began her second book project, a history of blue- and green-eyed peoples of the medieval Islamic world.

DAVID RICHTER
English
published “Keeping Company in Hollywood: Toward an Ethics of the Nonfiction Film,” focusing largely on Stephen Spielberg’s Munich. It appeared in the journal Narrative, 15:2 (May 2007). He was invited to contribute “Robert Alter and the Resistance to Theory” to the Academic Roundtable on Alter’s biblical translations

**ALAN ROSENBERG**  
**Philosophy**  
has focused his scholarly work on philosophical issues relating to the Holocaust and issues that arise in connection to psychoanalysis as well as key themes in continental philosophy, value theory, and philosophy of the social sciences. He is the co-author of over 80 journal articles and book chapters. He also is co-editor of numerous books, including *Echoes from the Holocaust: Philosophical Reflections on a Dark Time* (Temple University Press, 1988); *Healing Their Wounds: Psychotherapy and Holocaust Survivors* (Praeger, 1989); *Psychoanalytic Versions of the Human Condition* (New York University Press, 1998); *Contemporary Portrayals of Auschwitz: Philosophical Challenges* (Prometheus Books, 2000); *Foucault and Heidegger: Critical Encounters* (University of Minnesota Press, 2003); *Experiments in Thinking the Holocaust: Auschwitz, Modernity and Philosophy* (Polish edition: Wydawnicto Naukowe “Scholar,” 2004); and *Reading Nietzsche at the Margins* (Purdue University Press, 2008). For the past few years Prof. Rosenberg has served as co-editor of the electronic journal *Foucault Studies*, and as of March 2007 has been managing editor. In 2008 he served as Visiting Professor of Philosophy at the Copenhagen Business School in Denmark. Peking University has bought the rights to translate into Chinese *Foucault and Heidegger: Critical Encounters* (2010).

**MARK ROSENBLUM**  
**History**  
has seen his project “America and the Middle East: A Clash of Civilizations or a Meeting of Minds” continue to garner considerable national acclaim and media attention for its requirement that Jewish and Muslim students immerse themselves in the opposing group’s history relative to the Middle East conflict and construct a compelling “narrative” that supports the opposing viewpoint. The program has been featured in the *New York Times* and the *Chronicle of Higher Education* as well as on CBS-TV national news, National Public Radio, and a host of other electronic and print media after receiving a $100,000 grant from the Ford Foundation. Prof. Rosenberg was selected by the Clinton Global Initiative as one of two winners of an award for his work in the field of Religion, Conflict, and Reconciliation: “Insight on Incitement: A Public Education Program on Israeli-Palestinian Understanding.” In Fall 2009 he was appointed director of a new initiative devoted to fostering racial and ethnic understanding. This initiative has been awarded a $285,000 grant by the U.S. Department of Education and helps facilitate conflict resolution training of Queens College students, and engage members of the broader Queens community. Prof. Rosenblum co-edited *The Jewish Condition, Challenges and Response: 1938–2008*, a collection of essays that assesses the state of world Jewry from competing perspectives (Transaction Publishers, New Brunswick and London, 2008). He also authored “After Rabin: The Malaise of the Israeli Zionist Left,” Robert O. Freedman, ed., in *Contemporary Israel: Domestic Politics, Foreign Policy and Security Challenges* (Westview Press, Boulder, 2008) and “The Quest for Impact: Lessons Learned from the American Jewish Peace Camp,” in Robert O. Freedman’s *Israel and the United States: Six Decades of US–Israeli Relations*, Westview Press, 2012. He was selected by the *Forward* newspaper as one of the 50 most influential American Jews. Prof. Rosenblum continues to serve as director of the Ibrahim Student Scholar Middle East Leadership and Dialogue Program with Queens College, which includes Saudi Arabia and Israel as bookends to an immersion in Middle East culture and society.
IMANUEL RYBAKOV
Jewish Studies
is a researcher on the history and culture of the Bukharian Jews and Adjunct Professor of Jewish Studies at Queens College, CUNY. From 2005–2013 he served as President of the Association of the Bukharian Jewish Youth of the USA “Achdut-Unity.” He has published more than 100 articles about Bukharian Jews in Russian, Hebrew, and English in the Bukharian Times, the Bukharian Jewish Community Center, New York; Menorah, World Congress of the Bukharian Jews, Israel; and Haiton HaBukhari, Brit Yotzey Bukhara, Israel. He is a co-author of The History of the Bukharian Jews (2 vols., New York, 2005, World Congress of the Bukharian Jews & Club “Roshnoyi-Light”); and Kekokhavim Leolam Vaed (Israel, 2010, World Congress of the Bukharian Jews with the support of Makhon Ben Zvi). In 2011 Prof. Rybakov published a study guide to the language of the Bukharian Jews, Easy Bukharian. He also rendered assistance in preparing The Bukharian Jews, Encyclopedic Dictionary (New York, 2009, Club Roshnoyi-Light). In 2014 he published (in Russian) The Bukharian Jewish Merchant Class (Bukharian Jewish Youth of the USA, Achdut: New York, 2014); he is currently working on an English version.

MIRYAM SEGAL
Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures
is Associate Professor and Chair of the Classical, Middle Eastern & Asian Languages & Cultures Department, and director of the Religious Studies program. In November, she gave a talk on law and narrative at a Jewish Law Association conference in Toronto. That same month she also presented two biblical texts at the Text Study Series for the Center for Jewish Studies at the CUNY Grad Center. Her piece on Hebrew sound, “From Hatikvah to KISS (or, the Sounds of a Jewish Nation),” appeared in the spring 2016 issue of the AJJ Perspectives.

ARTHUR SHIPPEE
Religious Studies
gave the inaugural lecture for the newly created Interpretations of Ancient Judaism Series in April 2013, extending the popular Biblical Archaeology Series, and in March 2014 addressed the Jewish Studies Faculty Colloquium analyzing how the term “anti-Semitic” misrepresents the ideas and history of the New Testament in a lively talk entitled “The Anti-Semitic New Testament: Really?” An ordained Presbyterian minister, he served as Commissioner to the 220th General Assembly (2012), and was quoted in the New York Times after the Divestment motion was defeated; he subsequently worked with local Jewish groups planning for the 221st General Assembly and beyond. He also chairs the Ecclesiastical Relations Committee on the Council of the Presbytery of Southern New England. A winner of Queens College’s 2005 Presidential Excellence in Teaching Award for Adjuncts and chair of the selection committee for several years, he has taught at the college for over 20 years. Prof. Shippee and Philip Culbertson edited The Pastor: Readings from the Patristic Period, which has been republished by Fortress Press.

SHEILA SPECTOR
English
is the author of Byron and the Jews: A Study in Translation (Wayne State University Press, 2010). Her essays include “Byron and the Bund: The New York Connection between the British Poet and Russian-Jewish Revolutionaries.” She was selected for inclusion in Byron’s Transatlantic Influence and Reputation (eds. Mathew Scott and Joel Pace). Her publications include Orientalism: Contextual Approaches and Pedagogical Practices (Diane Long Hoeveler and Jeffrey Cass, eds., Columbus: Ohio State University Press, 2006); “A Kabbalistic Reading of Jerusalem’s Prose Plates,” invited for inclusion in Women Read William Blake: “Opposition Is True Friendship” (Helen P. Bruder, ed.); and the forthcoming I give you the end of a golden string: A Kabbalistic Guide to Blake’s “Jerusalem” (manuscript completed). Prof. Spector’s lectures and readings include “Objections to Objects,” a special session for the

JOSEPH SUNGOLOWSKY
European Languages & Literatures

BELLA TALER
Benjamin S. Rosenthal Library
manages a Lucius N. Littauer Grant for the library, enabling the purchase of new Holocaust publications each year. She has been able to purchase 251 volumes (231 titles) over the past several years, and this past year was able to acquire an additional 42 titles. Among her recent achievements are “The Jewish Studies Book Awards: A Collection Development Strategy for Non-Sectarian Academic Libraries,” in Collection Building, Vol. 30, 1, 2011. She also delivered a paper, “Uncovering Jewish Resources in the Benjamin Rosenthal Library,” at the Queens College Faculty Colloquium, October 2011.

EVAN ZIMROTH
English
received the Medal of Honour (the Lithuanian Millennium Star) from the Lithuanian Ministry of Foreign Affairs in September 2009 for “the fostering of friendly relations between the Lithuanian and Jewish nations.” The medal was presented to her by the Foreign Minister of Lithuania in a ceremony at the Lithuanian Consulate in New York. That year she also gave the ASH Lecture at Clare Hall, Cambridge on “Isaiah Berlin: Baltic Jew,” and in June 2010 was on the organizing committee for the First Annual Isaiah Berlin Lecture in Riga, Latvia, given by Anne Applebaum on “The New Authoritarianisms.” In May 2011 Prof. Zimroth delivered the keynote address “The Limits (if any) of Holocaust Discourse” at a conference on “The Problems of Literary Genres,” University of Lodz, Poland. The essay was published in April 2012 in the journal Kinds and Styles of Criticism. In June 2011 she spoke at Cambridge on the use of the computer for literary composition in a symposium on English language usage, and later that year met as a consultant with the Lithuanian government on Jewish heritage issues. In Spring 2012 she was named advisor for the Jewish Studies program at the European Humanities University, Vilnius, and joined the Board of Advisors devoted to Jewish-Lithuanian reconciliation. In June 2012 she spoke in Riga, Latvia, on “Lithuania’s Jewish Heritage: History, Memory and Public Policy” as part of the annual commemorative events for the Isaiah Berlin Centenary, for which she had been co-organizer in 2009. Additionally she published “Lithuania’s Jewish Issues as Seen in the U.S.: Problems and Advances,” Litvak Heritage Conference: No Simple Stories, University College London, December 2012, and “Virginia, Lydia and Foreignness,” 23rd Annual Virginia Woolf Conference, Vancouver, June 2013, a presentation on Virginia Woolf’s attitudes to foreigners and Jews. Text Rain, an interactive video-installation of Prof. Zimroth’s poem, “talk, YOU” was featured at the First Center for the Visual Arts, Nashville, TN, Feb.-May 2013.
The Center for Jewish Studies and the Jewish Studies Program’s Annual Graduation and Awards Ceremony was held on June 2, 2016 following the college’s Commencement exercises. Proud parents, relatives and friends, faculty, and sponsors of the various awards were beaming with joy during the festivities at the Simon and Roslyn Gold Jewish Studies Library. In the warm and friendly ambiance of the Library, students and guests mingled and discussed their achievement, hopes, and aspiration for the future while reminiscing about their experiences at Queens College.

**THE 2016 GRADUATE**
Kayla S. Shelly

**THE AWARD RECIPIENTS**
The M. Hratch Zadoian Student Essay Prize in Holocaust Studies (Established in memory of Ambassador Henry Morgenthau) Megan Casey

**Prize for Academic Excellence**
Kayla S. Shelly

**Stefa Berger Communal Service Award**
Talya English

Enjoying the annual Jewish Studies Graduation & Awards Ceremony (left to right): Distinguished Professor of Sociology Samuel Heilman; Kayla S. Shelly, graduating minor, winner of the Award for Academic Excellence; Talya English, winner of the Stefa Berger Communal Service Award; and Arnold Franklin, Associate Professor of History and Director of the QC Center for Jewish Studies.

Talya English, winner of the annual Stefa Berger Communal Service Award, with Eva Zimmermann, sponsor of the award established by her late mother, Betty Greenberg, sister of Stefa Berger.
Spotlight on Alumni: Philip Kaplan ’12

IN AN INTERVIEW WITH JEWISH STUDIES DIRECTOR ARNOLD FRANKLIN

Philip Kaplan graduated from Queens College in 2012 with a BA in Jewish Studies. We recently caught up with him to discuss his experience at QC, what he’s been up to since graduation, and what his plans are for the future.

What have you been doing since you graduated?
I’ve made some important personal discoveries since graduation, and as a result changed course a few times. Initially I was in a cantorial program at the Jewish Theological Seminary of the Conservative Movement. I was on that track for two years, first in New York and then in Israel, until I decided to make a switch to rabbinical school at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah, an Orthodox institution, where I’m currently a student.

What made you decide to major in Jewish Studies?
I always had an interest in history and philosophy. And when I began to see that my path was leading towards Jewish leadership and community building, I thought it would be great to gain a broader exposure to Jewish texts and history.

You also studied music in college. Were you able to integrate your different intellectual pursuits?
While I’m no longer formally studying to be a cantor, music is still a tremendous part of my life, and I think it’s very much a part of my relationship with Judaism and Jewish Studies. I sing regularly with a professional Jewish a capella group, Six13, and a few weeks ago had the privilege of performing at a Jewish festival in Bialystok, Poland, which was an amazing experience. I plan on continuing to study hazzanut privately, and hopefully when I finish rabbinical school will find a synagogue looking for a rabbi who likes to sing and lead davening!

How did the Jewish Studies courses you took at QC have an impact on your life?
I’m tremendously appreciative of my time at QC, and in particular, to the Jewish Studies program. I didn’t grow up with a strong Jewish education, so it was wonderful to have the chance to immerse myself in Jewish history, philosophy, language and literature. I was able to see that my culture and religion are filled with intellectual pursuit and rigor.

Do you have any advice for students who are considering taking Jewish Studies courses?
Yes. Definitely try to take a variety of courses with a number of different professors, and then when you find something that really intrigues you, use all the amazing resources available to you to delve deeper. One of my favorite experiences at QC was an independent study I did with Prof. Franklin. I took his course on Maimonides and found myself really interested in the way Maimonides’ ideas continued to influence Jewish thought and theology in later generations. I met with Prof. Franklin, talked through some ideas I had for further study, and we were able to design an independent study that explored connections between Maimonides and thinkers of the haskala. It was an awesome experience to take the lead in pursuing my particular interest in Jewish thought, while still receiving patient, present, and thoughtful guidance throughout.

Have you read any good Jewish Studies-related books recently?
I’m a fan of Rabbi Lau’s series, The Sages, which I recently started. I’m reading the volume that looks at the figures of the Talmud. It’s fascinating! His work sheds light on, and supplies background and context for, my daily studies as a rabbinical student. I think having historical context can seriously deepen Talmud study.

If you could come back and teach any course you wanted at QC, what would it be?
I think it would be interesting to teach a course on the history and development of the prayer book, which serves as the basis for a coherent, meaningful, and shared religious experience. The liturgy offers a unique perspective on the development of the Jewish community. Halakha, philosophy, geographical and cultural particularities, and the history of modern Jewish movements all played a role in forging the siddur as we know it.

What are your plans for the future?
I hope to be a pulpit rabbi in a Modern Orthodox synagogue in the U.S. On my journey I came to realize that while I love music, my greatest passions are in teaching and pastoral counseling. I hope to serve in both these roles as a rabbi.
Our Publications

The Center for Jewish Studies has a growing number of significant academic publications, of interest to scholars and laypeople alike. The complete list appears below; several publication covers are also reprinted above.

Individual publications may be purchased directly from the Center. If you wish to obtain a specific publication, please contact the Center, either by calling the number above, or by email (rita.shliselberg@qc.cuny.edu).

THE HERBERT BERMAN MEMORIAL LECTURE
Israel Singer, Holocaust Era Assets: The Moral Perspective, November 17, 1999 (sold out)

OCCASIONAL PAPERS
Warren Zev Harvey, Maimonides’ Political Philosophy and Its Relevance for the State of Israel Today, The Dean Ernest Schwarz Memorial Lecture, November 15, 2001 (sold out)
Feige Kaplan, Should We Be Moaning About Cloning? Opportunities and Concerns in the New Genetics, The Dr. William Weil and Dr. Martha Weil Memorial Lecture, March 6, 2002
Warren Zev Harvey, Judah Halevi’s Political Philosophy and Its Relevance for the State of Israel Today, The Dean Ernest Schwarz Memorial Lecture, November 19, 2003 (sold out)

QUEENS COLLEGE JOURNAL OF JEWISH STUDIES: A STUDENT PUBLICATION
Volume I, Spring 1999, Michael Adler & Daniel Chung, eds.
Volume IV, Spring 2002, Rilka Libman Schulman & Justin Engel, eds.
Volume V, Spring 2003, Rebecca Finkel & Deborah Kahan, eds.
Volume VI, Spring 2004, Nicole Iny & Russel Neiss, eds.
Volume VII, Spring 2005, Michael Gutman & Bracha Feit, eds.
Volume VIII, Spring 2006, David Greenberg & Lauren Talerman, eds.
Volume XV, Spring 2013, editors-in-chief, Daniella Chaim & Laura Meltzer.
Our Publications

Other special publications available through the Center

Queens College Journal of Jewish Studies: A Student Public Conference/Symposium Proceedings


Other special publications available through the Center

Queens College Journal of Jewish Studies: A Student Public Conference/Symposium Proceedings


*The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses — 1938–2008*

William B. Helmreich
Mark Rosenblum
David Schimel
Editors


Our conference, “Is it 1938 Again?,” has been published by Transaction Publishers, April 2008, under the title *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses — 1938–2008*. Limited copies are available, so rush your orders for this probing study of the peril and promise of the Jewish condition at a special discount price of $15.00.

PURCHASE PRICE OF PUBLICATIONS (INCLUDING SHIPPING)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Publication</th>
<th>Price</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>The Herbert Berman Memorial Lectures</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Occasional Papers</td>
<td>$4.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference/Symposium Proceedings Maimonides</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Conference</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peretz Symposium</td>
<td>$7.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Journal of Jewish Studies: A Student Publication:</em></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volumes I–VII and X–XI</td>
<td>$10.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volumes VI, XII, XIII, XIV, XV &amp; XVI</td>
<td>$12.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MISSION STATEMENT
The Center for Jewish Studies is the research and outreach arm of Jewish Studies on campus, promoting Jewish knowledge, scholarship, and culture outside the formal classroom setting. Serving as a bridge between the academic program and the community, the Center has a wide array of exciting extracurricular events, making it a preeminent Jewish intellectual and cultural resource for the entire region. Through its imaginative programming, the Center seeks to:

- Engage the college and general public in Jewish education and culture by organizing lectures, symposia, conferences, films, music and theater performances.
- Foster Jewish learning in the community.
- Publish and disseminate scholarly proceedings to laypeople and scholars.
- Promote academic community among students and faculty.
- Encourage and sustain the pedagogic and scholarly activities of the faculty and students within the Jewish Studies Program at Queens College.

CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES ADVISORY BOARD
Professor Arnold Franklin, Director
Dr. Diane Spielmann, Associate Director
Professor Evan Zimroth, Associate Director

CENTER FOR JEWISH STUDIES EXECUTIVE BOARD
Ernest Schwarcz, Founder*
Rabbi Israel Mowshowitz, Chair Emeritus*
Herbert Berman, Esq., Chair Emeritus*
Arthur Anderman, Esq., Chair Emeritus
Bernie Spear, Chair
Pearl Halegua, Vice Chair
Gary Sazer, Vice Chair
Simon Gold, Esq., Honorary Vice Chair
Elsi Levy, Vice President for Cultural Affairs

GENERAL BOARD
Daniel Andron*
Elayne P. Bernstein-Schwartz*
Barbara Finger, Esq.
Nathan Halegua
Jerry Kirschbaum
Marilyn Kirschbaum
Dr. Sheldon Landesman
Leon Levy*
Amy Magid
Marc Magid
Leon Miller
Sandi Povman
Judith Rosen, PhD
Marcia Schorr
Dr. Arden Smith
Laurie Spear
Jeffrey S. Wiesenfeld
Marvin Zborowski

STAFF
Pat Tortorici
Rita Shliselberg

CULTURAL PROGRAMS
Biblical Archaeology Slide–Lecture Series
Lecture/Book Signings
Music & Theater Series
International Symposia and Conferences
Kristallnacht Memorials
Jewish Visual Arts Programs
Student Seminars

PROGRAMS IN THE COMMUNITY
Faculty Speakers Bureau
Community Initiative

PUBLICATIONS
The Queens College Journal of Jewish Studies: A Student Publication
Occasional Papers Series
Conference/Symposium Proceedings

SUPPORTERS OF ENDOWED LECTURES
Arthur and Carole Anderman (in honor of the Rose and Morris Danzig Trust)
Simon and Dr. Roslyn Gold
The Levy Family
Jack Lummer Endowment
The Ruth and Sidney Schindler Family
The Ernest and Marta Schwarz Endowment Fund
The Stolar Family
Lillian Taynor* & Family
Max and Dr. Jenny Weil
Marvin and Celina Zborowski

SPONSORS OF THE CINEMA ON SUNDAYS FILM/DIALOGUE SERIES
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur A. Anderman
Mr. & Mrs. Melvin Dubin
Elsi Levy

*Deceased
About the Center for Jewish Studies

SPONSORS OF
THE JEWISH
MUSIC & THEATER
PERFORMANCE SERIES
Carole and Arthur Anderman
The Levy Family

FACULTY
Ammiel Alcalay
Classical, Middle Eastern &
Asian Languages & Cultures
Isaac Alteras
History
Rikki Asher
Art Education
Elissa Bemporad
History, Jerry and William Ungar
Professor of Jewish Studies
Thomas E. Bird
European Languages &
Literatures
Francesca Bregoli
History, Joseph and Oro
Halegua Professor in Greek
and Sephardic Jewish
Studies
Sami S. Chetrit
Classical, Middle Eastern &
Asian Languages & Cultures
Sarah Covington
History
Harriet Davis-Kram
History
Abigail Doukhan
Philosophy, Pearl and Nathan
Halegua Family Professor in
Ethics and Tolerance
Liba H. Engel
Elementary & Early
Childhood Education
Arnold Franklin
History
Nora Glickman
Hispanic Languages &
Literatures
Samuel Heilman
Sociology
Leo Hershkowitz
History
Sari Kisilevsky
Philosophy
Michael Krasner
Political Science
Benny Kraut
History
Steven Kruger
English
Chava Lapin
Classical, Middle Eastern &
Asian Languages & Cultures
John O’Brien
History
Arbie Orenstein
Copland School of Music
Kristina Richardson
History
David Richter
History
Imanuel Rybakov
History
Miryam Segal
Classical, Middle Eastern &
Asian Languages & Cultures
Arthur Shipee
Philosophy
Rabbi Moshe Shur
History
Joseph Sungolowsky
European Languages &
Literatures
Izabella Taler
Jewish Studies Bibliographer
Benjamin Rosenthal Library

NEW PROFESSORSHIPS
AND TEACHERS
The Jerry and William Ungar
Professorship in Jewish Studies
Endowment, supported by Jerry* and William
Ungar:
Dr. Elissa Bemporad
The Joseph and Oro Halegua
Professorship in Greek and
Sephardic Jewish Studies, supported by the Pearl
and Nathan Halegua Family
Foundation:
Dr. Francesca Bregoli
The Pearl and Nathan Halegua
Family Professorship
in Ethics and Tolerance, supported by the Pearl
and Nathan Halegua Family
Foundation:
Dr. Abigail Doukhan

VISITING AND ADJUNCT
PROFESSORSHIPS
Dean Ernest Schwarcz
Visiting Eminent Professorship in
Jewish Philosophy,
supported by the Ernest and
Marta Schwarcz Endowment Fund
and by Queens College
The Rabbi Israel and Libby
Mowshowitz Adjunct
Professorship in Politics and
Religion,
supported by the
Mowshowitz Endowment Fund
The Jerry Israel and Libby
Mowshowitz Adjunct Professorship in
Holocaust Studies,
supported by the Jerry* and
William Ungar Endowment Fund
Rose & Morris Danzig Visiting
Professor in Jewish Studies,
established by Carole and
Arthur Anderman

FACULTY PROGRAMS
The Faculty Reading Group
in Jewish Civilization
The Jewish Studies
Faculty Colloquium

STUDENT AWARDS
AND PRIZES
Center for Jewish Studies Award,
supported by the Jewish Studies
Program
Jewish Studies Academic
Excellence Prize,
supported by the Jewish Studies
Program
Stefa Berger Communal Service
Award, supported by Eva and Lenny
Zimmerman
William Fenster Memorial
Scholarship, supported by the
Fenster Family
Endowment Fund
Morris Flatow Memorial
Scholarship, supported by the Flatow Family
Endowment Fund
Shulamit Lisa Gabow Scholarship
Endowment Fund, supported by Jack and Lisa Gabow
Ruth Hollander Award, supported by
Dr. Charles H. Hennekens
Jan Sinnreich Award for
Writing Excellence, supported by
Leonore Sinnreich
M. Hratch Zadoian Essay Prize
in Holocaust/Genocide Studies, endowed by M. Hratch Zadoian

*Deceased
An interesting parallel appears on the Web, accidentally setting a good example for us as Jews. It involves two men of the same name whose accomplishments are mistakenly intertwined in extensive columns on our computers. Both gentlemen died in recent years and were leaders in their industries and in their world involvements. Of the two, which is our Leon Levy and which is the other?

One Leon Levy’s estate recently left twenty-five million dollars to the New York Botanical Gardens. That’s not our Leon Levy. One gave thirty million dollars to City College. That’s not our Leon Levy, either. One gave millions to museums, opera companies, symphony orchestras, and archaeological digs worldwide. Not our Leon Levy! He was the other one. But our Leon Levy did give thousands of dollars to our own Center for Jewish Studies, as well as QC Hillel, and thousands to Hillcrest Jewish Center, and thousands to the Sephardic Jewish Center of Forest Hills, all in Queens. He gave thousands more to AIPAC and the Conference of Major American Jewish Organizations, and thousands to the Joint Distribution Committee, and thousands to the American Sephardi Federation, and thousands to the Center for Jewish History, and Bar Ilan University and Meir Panim and UJA, among many, many other recipients worldwide! The differences between our Leon Levy and the other Leon Levy are twofold. First, one gave in the millions while the other gave in the thousands, and that’s all right. They both felt their responsibility to give back to society, not to just take, consume, and leave. The second difference becomes obvious and worrisome in that only one Leon Levy understood his responsibility to Jewish causes. He couldn’t help his people with millions of dollars, but he could give whatever was available within his means. There’s nothing wrong with helping Jews with whatever we have—millions, thousands, hundreds, whatever and whenever we can. If each of us follows the path of our Leon Levy, giving and doing what we can for causes that will help our people survive, one Leon Levy multiplied by the rest of us right here, right now, can make the difference throughout the world. It’s that simple! Please give as you can, or rather, give as you must, to worthy Jewish causes. And also consider leaving a bequest to the Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College to ensure the continuation of this important organization, which supports students and the Jewish community.

Planned Giving: Leaving a Legacy for the Next Generation

If you want to ensure that the Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College will continue to serve and delight generations to come, you may wish to consider making a planned gift. Planned giving helps you maximize the tax benefits of your charitable donation while allowing you to provide a gift that you may not have thought possible. Regardless of your age or income, you can benefit from estate planning, and planned giving. There are many creative ways to provide a contribution to the Center for Jewish Studies while enhancing and safeguarding your own financial situation. For more information about planned giving, please contact the Office for Institutional Advancement at 718-997-3920 and speak to one of our advisors.

“Friends” of The Center

Like all Queens College Centers and Institutes, the Center for Jewish Studies must be financially self-sustaining. Its numerous free or nominally priced programs, publications, enhanced academic curricular offerings, and student scholarships simply would not be possible without external funding assistance. The Center for Jewish Studies is, therefore, most grateful for the gifts and grants that it receives from alumni, program patrons, elected public officials, and foundations, and is particularly thankful for the membership gifts ($36 and above) of those who have joined the Friends of the Center organization.

The Friends was established as an annual membership organization to maintain the functions and activities of the center. Monies of the Friends underwrite student scholarships, the student Journal of Jewish Studies, new courses, and public programs—for example, our “Is It 1938 Again?” conference attended by over 1,000 participants. Members of the Friends become active stakeholders in the Jewish Studies’ initiatives at Queens College and can take heart that they are supporting vital and dynamic Jewish academic and intellectual/cultural programs.

For Member Benefits, see page 37.
Friends of the Center

It is with deepest gratitude and appreciation that we publish here the names of those who have contributed to the Center for Jewish Studies at all levels as of July 31, 2016.

We have attempted to list member names as accurately as possible. If by chance your name has been omitted, misspelled, or misidentified we apologize. Please alert our office and we will correct our database. Call 718-997-5730.

The donors identified below include only those who have provided financial assistance to the Center between June 20, 2015 and July 31, 2016.

PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL
($10,000 and over)
Mr. & Mrs. Arthur A. Anderman
Mr. and Mrs. Jack Gabow
Mr. & Mrs. Nathan Halegua
Jerry** and William Ungar

DEAN’S CIRCLE
($5,000–$9,999)
Levy Family Foundation—Mrs. Elsi Levy
Sinai Chapels

FACULTY CIRCLE
($2,500–$4,999)
Mr. & Mrs. Bernard Spear

PATRON CIRCLE
($500–$2,499)
Mr. Edward Braun
Ms. Lorelei Ennis, Ennis Family Fund
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Levy
Mr. Martin Messinger, The Messinger Foundation, Inc.
Estate of Norman Mollov
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Miller, Leon & Syma Memorial Trust
Mr. & Mrs. Kurt Nash
Mrs. Marcia Schorr
Mrs. Stella Skura
Mr. & Mrs. Marvin Zborowski

SPONSOR ($100–$499)
Dr. & Mrs. George* Axelrad
Mr. & Mrs. Emanuel Bardash
Mrs. Felicia Bienstock
Professor Thomas Bird
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Delman
Dr. & Mrs. Bernard Edelstein
Ms. Lorelei Enis, Grant Family Fund

Mr. & Mrs. David First
Mrs. Phyllis Freberge
Ms. Judy Goldberg
Dr. & Mrs. Robert Theodore Goldberg
Hillcrest Jewish Center
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Jacob
Mr. Robert S. Kaplan
Mr. & Mrs. Henry J. Katz
Mr. Robert Kenler
Mr. & Mrs. Alfred Lavine
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Lefkowitz
Mr. & Mrs. Robert Levy
Mr. & Mrs. George Nagelberg
Mr. & Mrs. Hyman Portnoy
Mr. Arthur Rath
Mr. & Mrs. Martin Resnick
Mr. Marshall Rubin
Ms. Ruth Schorsch
Mr. & Mrs. Edgar Schwartz
Mr. & Mrs. Allons Sperber
Mr. & Mrs. Sol Stern
Mr. & Mrs. Herbert Wald
Mr. Edward R. Weiss
Dr. & Mrs. Norman Weiss
Mr. & Mrs. Jeffrey Wiesenfeld
Ms. Linda Yee
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Zimmerman

SUPPORTER ($36–$99)
Ms. Meryl Alpert
M. s. Esther Andron
Mr. & Mrs. Claude Ballin
Ms. Margot Baum
Ms. Vivian J. Beer
Mr. Gary Berman
Mrs. Harriet Bildstein
Ms. Judith Brash
Rabbi & Mrs. Raphael Butler
Mr. & Mrs. Boris Cohen
Diane Cohen & Jack Grossman
Ms. Francene Cohen
Ms. Sondra Cohen
Mr. & Mrs. Julius Cohn
Ms. Ellen Cooper
Ms. Edith Dressler
Ms. Wendie Eigen-Weinstein
Mr. & Mrs. Werner Engelbert
Dr. & Mrs. Howard Gage
Mr. & Mrs. W. Ginsburg
Ms. Esther Hirsch Goodman
Mr. & Mrs. Mark H. Graber
Mr. & Mrs. David Greenberg
Dr. & Mrs. Stanley Halpern
Mrs. Helene Heisler
Ms. Ruth Hollander
Mr. & Mrs. Mark Koppelman
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Krochak
Prof. Chava Lapin
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Lauer
Ms. Alyce Leibowitz
Mr. Herbert A. Levy
Mr. & Mrs. Howard Levy
Mrs. Irma Levy
Ms. Ruth Loewenstein
Mr. & Mrs. Lloyd Merkelson
Ms. Linda Meyers
Mr. & Mrs. Irving Miles
Mrs. Miriam Mopper
Oberstein Family Fund – Mr. & Mrs. Robert Oberstein
Mr. Louis Osofsky
Mr. Jeffrey Pelzer
Mr. & Mrs. Lawrence Pomerantz
Mr. & Mrs. Leonard Pulveritz
Mr. Carl Rabinowitz
Dr. & Mrs. Michael Rosenberg
Ms. Rozanne Rosenthal
Ms. Carol Rotbell
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Ruskin
Ms. Gladys Sherman
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Sherman
Mr. & Mrs. Seymour Scherzer
Ms. Roselyn Schwartz
Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Schwarz
Mr. Marvin Yablon

Mr. & Mrs. Leo Shilsenberg
Ms. Adele Shub
Mr. Michael Shur
Professor Moshe Shur
Ms. Shirley Smith
Dr. Diane Spielmann
Dr. & Mrs. Stanley Steinerman
Ms. Renie Tell
Mr. & Mrs. Jerome Tiger
Mr. Nicholas Tsounis
Ms. Regina Vogelman
Ms. Rosalie Weiner
Ms. Dorothy Weinman
Ms. Esther Wertenteil
Mr. Marvin Yablon

UNDER $36
Ms. Harriet Aliperta
Ms. Muriel Drew
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Dikowitz
Mr. Henry Ducat
Ms. Clara Lato
Mr. & Mrs. Leon Meyer
Ms. Sonia Nahven
Mr. & Mrs. Hal Perstein
Mr. Stanley Pickowski
Ms. Sandy Prinz
Mr. & Mrs. Sam Resnick
Ms. Jeanette Rockove
Ms. Jacqueline Rosay
Mr. Leonard Saltz
Ms. Claire H. Sheffetz

*Deceased
New Membership Benefits

PRESIDENT’S COUNCIL
($10,000 AND OVER):

- Luncheon with Director and pre-event dinners with our distinguished speakers.
- A copy of Nasser D. Khalili’s spectacular book *Visions of Splendor in Islamic Art and Culture*.
- A copy of *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*.
- 2 DVDs of concerts and interfaith dialogue.
- Free tickets to all events; reserved seating; free annual publications; advance notices; auditing of classes; listing in the *Culture & Arts Guide*.

DEAN’S CIRCLE
($5,000–$9,999):

- A copy of Nasser D. Khalili’s spectacular book *Visions of Splendor in Islamic Art and Culture*.
- A copy of *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*.
- Free tickets to all events; reserved seating; free annual publications; advance notices; auditing of classes; listing in the *Culture & Arts Guide*.

FACULTY CIRCLE
($2,500–$4,999):

- A copy of Nasser D. Khalili’s spectacular book *Visions of Splendor in Islamic Art and Culture*.
- A copy of *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*.
- Free tickets to all events; reserved seating; free annual publications; advance notices; auditing of classes; listing in the *Culture & Arts Guide*.

PATRON CIRCLE
($500–$2,499):

- A copy of Nasser D. Khalili’s spectacular book *Visions of Splendor in Islamic Art and Culture*.
- A copy of *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*.
- Reserved seating; free annual publications; advance notices; auditing of classes; listing in the *Culture & Arts Guide*.

SPONSOR
($100–$499):

- A copy of *The Jewish Condition: Challenges and Responses—1938–2008*.
- Reserved seating; free annual publications; advance notices; auditing of classes; listing in the *Culture & Arts Guide*.

SUPPORTER
($36–$99):

- Free annual publications; advance notices; listing in the *Culture & Arts Guide*.
Important Reasons
Why Your Contribution Is a Wise Investment

A Distinguished and Growing Faculty
six of whom have won the college's coveted “Presidential Award for Excellence in Teaching.”

Creative Curriculum That Has Won National Acclaim
and has been featured in the Chronicle of Higher Education, New York Times, New York Jewish Week, National Public Radio, CBS-TV national news, and a host of other electronic and print media.

A Dynamic and Expanding Culture & Arts Program
that includes world-class scholars and educators, renowned diplomats and political analysts, virtuoso musicians and singers, and compelling cinema.

Our Diverse and Talented Students
who speak dozens of languages and represent a multitude of different ethnic, racial, and religious groups, all studying Jewish topics across more than a dozen academic disciplines.

The Only Jewish Studies Journal in the Nation That Is Totally Student-Produced
The Journal’s motto, drawn from Pirkei Avot (4:1), is an invitation to join us: “Who is Wise? One who learns from everyone.”

Asking Difficult Questions and Providing Balanced Answers
to the most pressing issues facing the Jewish People today.

New Community Initiative
dramatically expands our outreach program off campus which includes compelling interfaith dialogues and discussions, powerful film series and performances.

We hope you will take a few moments to fill out the enclosed envelope and join us as a New Member or renew as a Friend of the Center for Jewish Studies at Queens College.

Join us and experience the Important Reasons why we are excited and proud.
Parking and Transportation

Free parking available on campus in the evenings and on Sundays for LeFrak Concert Hall events: Lot 15, Reeves Avenue.

GETTING TO QUEENS COLLEGE

BY CAR

From Long Island and points East:
Long Island Expressway to Exit 23 (Main Street). Left at light and immediate left at next traffic light (Horace Harding Expressway/ L.I.E. service road eastbound). Continue on service road to Reeves Avenue. Right turn onto Reeves and another right onto 61st Road to parking lot 15. See map on this page.

From Manhattan and points West:
Long Island Expressway to Exit 24 (Kissena Blvd.). First right turn onto Reeves Avenue and another right onto 61st Road to parking lot 15. See map.

BY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

Take the Q17, Q25-Q34, or Q88 bus to the corner of Kissena Blvd. and Horace Harding Expressway (L.I.E. service road). Buses can be coordinated with E, F, M, R, or #7 subway trains.

Elevator Access to LeFrak:
Cross Reeves Avenue and walk through the opening in the big iron fence to the rear entrance of the LeFrak Concert Hall. Pathway through the opening in the fence leads directly into the building. Proceed down the entrance hallway to the elevator on your left. An attendant will take you up in the elevator to the Concert Hall level. This is not a self-service elevator; it requires the attendant with a special key. Stairs from the ground floor, to the right of the entrance as you enter, also will take you to the Concert Hall level. See map.

For Rosenthal Library, Room 230:
Make a right turn onto Reeves Ave. (see “By Car,” above). Go to Gate 3 to enter campus; then follow map.