



UNIVERSITY
SYNAGOGUE
Connect. Engage. Discover.

The Torch

December 7, 2016 • 7 Kislev 5777



HUMAN RIGHTS SHABBAT ZIMRAH
FEATURING PETER GORDON, YUVAL RON, AND ROWAN STORM
THIS FRIDAY 7:30 PM

This Week

Friday, 12/9

7:30 pm
Human Rights Shabbat Zimrah

Saturday, 12/10

9 am
Hevrah Torah

9 pm
Tot Shabbat AM - Best Playdate Ever! with Rabbi Simonds

9 am
Torah Off the Beaten Path with Cantor Shapiro
(Will Rogers State Beach - Lifeguard Station 15)

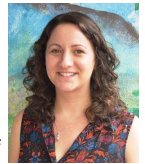
Sunday, 12/11

9 am
[Lunch Making for Daybreak Women's Shelter \(Synagogue Kitchen\)](#)



Grand Day

Alana Levitt
Assistant Director of ECLC



On Friday, December 2nd, ECLC children enjoyed a wonderful morning with special guests including grandparents, aunts and uncles, family friends, parents and more. Grand Day is an annual playdate, which has become an inter-generational day of fun! From baby siblings to a 90+ year old great-grandmother and a great-aunt, it was truly a memorable event for all.

Children began in their classrooms and invited guests to braid challah, make crafts, take photos and experience a morning in our school. Our weekly Hakafa upstairs before Shabbat with Cantor Shapiro, Jessie Shamout, and Rabbi Feinstein was made even more special as the entire school plus over 100 special guests made their way to the sanctuary. We sang songs, did Shabbat blessings, and heard a story together with our special guests.

The days are long but the years are short. The memories we made together as well as the beautiful photos that our teachers captured will last a lifetime. We thank all of our guests for joining us! ECLC doors are always open. If you'd like to come visit, read a story, volunteer or take a tour, feel free to contact our office. L'Dor V'dor!

Gift Card Challenge 2016



St. Joseph Center's mission is to provide working poor families, as well as homeless men, women, and children of all ages, with the inner resources and tools to become productive, stable and self-supporting members of the community. We have set a goal to provide their clientele with 360 gift cards for the Holidays. We have made this simple. Go to the [link](#)** and with just a click you will be able to make someone's holiday brighter.

****For the Safeway gift card, we encourage you to purchase as many gift cards as you are able to, but please make sure each Safeway gift card is no more than \$25 each. The recipient email is EGoldfarb@stjosephctr.org.**

COOK WITH US & MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLES' LIVES



LOOKING FOR A GREAT TIKKUN OLAM PROJECT FOR YOUR FAMILY, HAVURAH OR TEENAGER?

You don't have to be a master chef or even a good cook - just someone looking for a great way to help our fellow community residents at OPCC/The People Concern. Our **LIFE SKILLS COOKING WORKSHOPS** are incredibly fun and rewarding. We are now booking for these dates: **JANUARY 11 & JANUARY 25**, and **FEBRUARY 8 & 22nd**.

The Cooking Workshop meets from **5:30 pm to 7:30 pm**, at the Cloverfield Services Center in Santa Monica. Our theme is "5 Ingredients for \$5 Dollars Or Less", and the meals have been delicious. This month we had Renee and Paris Gingold, and Stephanie, Avi and Addison Carson prepare an incredible menu of black bean soup, rice, skillet enchiladas with tofu and chicken, and chocolate covered strawberries, pineapple and bananas. We are preparing, cooking and eating together. We are building community, and making a difference in people's lives. Please email Susan Corwin (susan@sjclaw.com) or Ellen Dorros (ellendorros@gmail.com), for more information and to secure a date.

The People Concern is the largest provider of housing and social services on the Westside of Los Angeles right now. Their Safe Haven, Access, and Daybreak Shelter support homeless women, men and veterans, and provide critical services including transitional and emergency housing, medical and mental health care, daily meals, showers, laundry, case management, obtaining permanent housing and daily social, recreational and life skills programs.



HEROES AMONG US

Gala

HELP WITH OUR AUCTION

The Auction Committee needs every family's help with securing donations! Please bring (or email) the [solicitation letter and donation form](#) to the businesses you patronize (restaurants, beauty salons, gyms, etc). Remember, all proceeds generated from the Auction will directly benefit children's education. Thank you so much for your help. Together we can make this happen!

A Message from Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles {SOVA}



On behalf of Jewish Family Service of Los Angeles (JFS) and our Board of Directors, we thank you for your recent participation in our High Holiday Food Drive supporting the SOVA Community Food and Resource Program. Your collection of 2,093 pounds of food helps ensure that hungry members of our community will have enough to eat. The JFS { SOVA }

Community Food and Resource Program responds to hunger and poverty in our community by providing individuals and families with the resources they need. We are grateful to you for being part of the SOVA Community.

From our friends at St. Joseph Center



Thank you for the gift cards to St. Joseph Center. The holidays are a time to reflect on our blessings, and we are grateful for your caring spirit and your commitment to help St. Joseph Center meet the rising demand for assistance. Your gift changes lives, and your generosity of spirit enables us to reach out to over 6,500 people in need in our community. Thank you for



Towels and Toiletries Drive

As we have done in the past, we are asking our University Synagogue families to please donate a set or two of towels (wash cloth, face towel, bath towel) to the ladies of OPCC as a holiday gift that will be given to them on **December 24th**. If you can please put them in a decorative gift bag that would be wonderful. Other toiletries being collected include travel size lotions, tooth paste, makeup, soaps, shampoos, etc. Towels can be dropped off at the Synagogue office from now until December 20th. Then, join us at the Annual Holiday Party at the Cloverfield Service Center on December 24 from 2:00 - 4:00 pm.

Community Calendar

Thursday, December 8, 7:00 pm

Mizrahi Commemoration Event

SAVE THE DATE: An Untold Story: Honoring the official day of commemoration of Jewish Refugees from Arab countries and Iran. With special exhibit, guest speakers, and musical performance. [Click here for more information.](#)

Location: Sephardic Temple

Sunday, December 11; 1:30 pm

Jewish Genealogical Society of Los Angeles: Hanukkah Party & Film

Latkes will be cooked, sufganiyot will be sprinkled with sugar. Come for the film, festivities and food! The film "Schmatta: From Rags to Riches to Rags," shown courtesy of HBO,

partnering with us as we continue working for a world of peace, harmony, community and love.

Silver Generation presents:
Did Jesus Spin the Dreidel?
 with Rabbi Feinstein

December 28 from 12 - 1:30 pm*

*followed by latkas and schmoozing



[Click here to sign up!](#)

Sisterhood Hanukkah Dinner



Thursday, December 15, 6:00 pm
 Klein Hall

Join us for latkes and belly dancing as we celebrate together the festival of lights.

Free for Sisterhood members.

ALL ARE WELCOME!

Alluring Appetizers & Wine
 Sumptuous Salad
 Luscious Latkes
 Delectable Desserts

Sisterhood Members: Free!
 Other Adults (men and women): \$25
 Children 10 and under: \$15

Reservations are required before December 9.

[Click here to register!](#)

LUNCH MAKING FOR DAYBREAK WOMEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER OPCC

"One good cause countless good effects "



Lunch making for Daybreak Women's Homeless Shelter OPCC in Santa Monica continues **on Sundays once a month at 9:00am**. 50 Sack lunches are prepared by our Synagogue Volunteers, hopefully YOU, and delivered to Daybreak.

Please [contact Suzy](#) if you are interested in this Tikkun Olam activity.

UPCOMING DATE:

December 11: University Synagogue Kitchen

reviews 100 years of the garment industry in NYC. Veteran filmmaker Mark Levin looks at the past and present of New York's garment district, from its heyday as a base for immigrant labor and unions to its recent decline.
 Guests: \$5

Sunday, December 11

The Jewish Federation Community Service Day

Bring joy and do good this holiday season with a meaningful day of volunteering with the Federation on Sunday, December 11th! Join the community in giving back through any one of these four impactful opportunities: Hollywood Community Housing Corporation, Project Angel Food, Shemesh Organic Farm, and the Westside JCC 5K Run/Walk. [Click here to volunteer.](#)

Free for University Synagogue Members!
[Click here to register.](#)



Shalom Hartman Institute of North America presents

**VISIONS FOR A SHARED SOCIETY:
 THE "TRIBES" OF ISRAEL**
 SYNAGOGUE COLLABORATIVE LECTURE SERIES

What are the core values of some of the "tribes" that comprise Israel today?
 How does a divided people build a shared society?

What are the challenges and the possibilities for building a Jewish and Democratic Israel?

November 13, 2016 Sunday, 4 pm Leo Baeck Temple	December 11, 2016 Sunday, 4 pm Stephen S. Wise Temple	January 22, 2017 Sunday, 2 pm Valley Beth Shalom	March 5, 2017 Sunday, 4 pm Temple Beth Am
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All lectures are free for members of sponsoring organizations
 Non-members: Series pass \$75 / Individual lectures \$20

New!

Post-lecture dinner and discussion available on the following dates, by RSVP only:

- November 13, 2016
- December 11, 2016
- March 5, 2017

All three dinners \$100 / individual dinners \$36

[Click here to register](#) for lectures and dinners

Generously funded by the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles



Adat Ari El Synagogue • Ahavat Torah Congregation • Beit Kulam • Beth Shir Shalom • B'nai David Judea • Ikar • Kehillat Israel • Leo Baeck Temple • Malibu Jewish Center & Synagogue • Mishkon Tephilo • Nachshon Minyan • Shomrei Torah Synagogue • Stephen S. Wise Temple • Temple Ahavat Shalom • Temple Aliyah • Temple Beth Am • Temple Beth Hillel • Temple Emanuel of Beverly Hills • Temple Isaiah • Temple Judea • Temple Kol Tikvah • University Synagogue • Valley Beth Shalom



CPR Certification is a lifesaving and important action we can all take ensure our community and children are safe. For \$36, ECLC is offering a 2-hour CPR certification. Please RSVP to alevitt@unisyn.org if you'd like to join. Payment can be collected on the day-of, or you can submit payment to Alana in the ECLC office. [Click here to access the sign-up form.](#)

Photos of the Week:



Grandparents' Day at ECLC



NFTY Jr Event

Los Angeles Collaborative Series: Tal Becker on Dec. 11



Jewish Federations are collecting funds to help address the impact of an unprecedented 480 fires that raged across Israel, displacing nearly 100,000

people and ravaging thousands of acres of land.

The impact of the devastation on Israelis will be long-lasting.

People must now return to their damaged homes, schools and neighborhoods. Thousands have no homes to return to at all. Many community institutions that provide vital programs and services have been hit hard. They will be struggling to rebuild just when they are needed most.

The Government of Israel is supporting those impacted by the fires primarily through local municipalities. Jewish Federations are working with our local partners and the National Emergency Authority to assess urgent and emerging needs.

[Please consider donating by clicking here.](#)

For more information and updates on what's happening at University Synagogue, "[like](#)" us on [Facebook](#)!



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