



The Torch

January 18, 2017 • 20 Tevet 5777



This Week

Friday, 1/20

5:30 pm
Tot Shabbat PM

7:30 pm
Shabbat Zimrah with the [Pursuit of Harmony](#)

Saturday, 1/21

9 am
Hevrah Torah

10:30 am
[Bat Mitzvah of Sydney Shear](#)

January 20th // 7:30 pm

Shabbat Zimrah
with Yuval Ron, Ava Nahas, &

The Pursuit of Harmony
Shabbat & Conversation

Can a **Jewish American** and a **Palestinian Muslim** form find a common bond through music?

With original songs and prayers written in English, Hebrew and Arabic...this is a once in a lifetime experience sure to inspire and not soon forgotten. Join us for a truly special Shabbat Zimrah with Yuval Ron, Ava Nahas, and... the Pursuit of Harmony.

Mazal Tov



Margarete and Rabbi Morley Feinstein, on the marriage of their son Dr. Aaron Feinstein to Shira Berenson.

Now is the time to RSVP and support our Heroes Among US Gala

2017 Heroes Among US
gala
March 16, 2017
Riviera Country Club

honoring:
Rabbi Joel T. Simonds
Dr. Barry Silverman

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 this upcoming date: **FEBRUARY 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. 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.



It's not too early. Tickets are on sale and our tribute book information is ready to go. We have an exciting new format this year.

What to Expect

We are going to the iconic **Riviera Country Club** located just west of University Synagogue off Sunset. Riviera is a beautiful and spacious venue. This year, instead of a formal sit-down dinner, we will be offering passed hors d'oeuvre and specialty food stations with many delicious options. We promise plenty to eat with a selection of signature cocktails. There will be formal seating with a plated dessert during the program portion of the evening when we recognize this year's amazing honorees, Rabbi Joel Simonds and Dr. Barry Silverman. Reserved seating is available only at the sponsorship levels.

Mobile bidding

Our **auction bidding** will be done on your mobile phones. For those of you who don't have smart phones, there will be ipads available with people to assist. In order to get a bidding number, you must register on-line with your payment and billing information. The auction will close at approximately 8:30-exact time will be announced. Winning bidders may collect their items at the end of the evening. For those unable to attend the Gala, you can register for the auction and participate in real time through your mobile device.

This is our largest fundraiser of the year. Proceeds provide scholarships and allow us to offer all the wonderful programs and services we have here at University Synagogue. If you are unable to attend, you can lend your support by participating in the auction or making a donation via the auction website.

How Can You Help?

Join UniSyn in the 2017 Homeless Count!

2017 Homeless Count

Join US in the largest homeless count in the country!

UniSyn is a HUB this year.

Everyone counts. No matter where they live.

Wednesday, January 25th

[Click here to learn more & volunteer.](#)

UNIVERSITY SYNAGOGUE IS A HUB FOR THE 2017 HOMELESS COUNT!

WHAT: The largest homeless count in the country
WHY: To secure appropriate resources for the 47,000 homeless people in our community

WHEN: Wednesday, January 25th, 5:00 pm

WHERE: University Synagogue, Klein Hall

HOW: Here's how volunteer sign-ups work from now until the Count:
1) Log on to www.theycountwillyou.org to register.
2) Indicate your desired SPA (SPA 5 - West LA) and enter in the rest of your information. You will receive a confirmation email from LAHSA immediately.
3) Within 24 hours, you will receive a second email from LAHSA with a link to a list of deployment sites to choose from. (List can also be viewed here)
4) RSVP to your chosen deployment site through the link in Step 3.

For more information and to view the flyer, [click here.](#)

LUNCH MAKING FOR DAYBREAK WOMEN'S HOMELESS SHELTER OPPC

"One good cause countless good effects "



Lunch making for Daybreak Women's Homeless Shelter OPPC in Santa Monica continues on Sundays once a month. Sack lunches are prepared by our Synagogue Volunteers, hopefully YOU, and delivered to Daybreak. ALL are welcome to help with this activity. Sisterhood is generously sponsoring this program. Please contact Suzy (suzy4433@aol.com or 310-850-4566) if you are interested in this Tikun Olam activity.

UPCOMING DATE:

January 29 at 9:45 am
Cloverfield Service Center
(1751 Cloverfield Blvd. Santa Monica, CA 90404)

Community Calendar

Sunday, January 22, 2017, 3 PM

Shalom Hartman Institute presents: Visions For A Shared Society: The "Tribes" of Israel

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? Hear the best-selling Israeli author and one of Israel's most recognized and respected scholars, Dr. Micah Goodman. All lectures are free for members of University Synagogue.

[Click here to register.](#)

Wednesday nights, March 1, 7-8:30 pm

New Bereishit Session: Creating Jewish Marriages From the Beginning

For newly engaged or married couples to explore the ways to integrate aspects of Judaism, Jewish values and traditions into their marriages, while socializing with other couples. This program is open to ALL couples looking to infuse Judaism into their marriage! Questions? Email Rabbi Ashley [here](#).

For more information, go to www.bereishitjewishmarriage.com
Location: Temple Isaiah

- * Become an underwriter by sponsoring our photographer, center pieces, photo booth or other possibilities. Call us and we will make all the arrangements.
- * Help get auction items by asking the vendors, restaurants and services you use.
- * Invite your friends to participate in the auction by sharing the registration link.
- * Bid on auction items when it goes live on March 9.
- * Purchase an ad in the tribute book.

Log on now: <https://unisyn.org/HeroesAmongUS#>

Thank you for your support!

Lisabeth Lobenthal
Executive Director

Bat Mitzvah Spotlight: Sydney Shear

Sydney is the son of Dani and Brian Shear.

School:
Paul Revere Middle School

Spiritual Highlight:

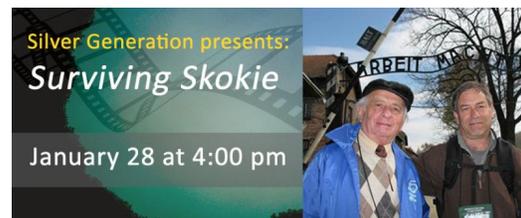
Bonding with the warm, amazing kids in my class. I especially loved my weekend away at the Synagogue's retreat. I was hesitant to go at first, not knowing many people, but had just a brilliant time. The experience brought me closer to my new Jewish community.



Tzedakah Project:

I volunteered at Much Love Animal Rescue. I took pictures of all the animals and helped promote their Instagram Page. I was really excited to help them gain 1,000 followers, some of whom might be future foster parents or adopters.

Silver Generation presents: Surviving Skokie



On **Saturday, January 28, 2019 at 4:00 PM** in the Gray Family Chapel, our Silver Generation group will present a new documentary film, "Surviving Skokie." Following the screening there will a discussion with the filmmaker, Eli Adler, and synagogue member Jim Ruxin.

This new, one hour film has already won the Audience Awards at several film festivals because it starts conversations across generations. It is suitable for middle school children and all those older.

Jack Adler survived Auschwitz, but in 1961 he had to witness American Nazis marching down the main street of Skokie, Illinois, the comfortable suburb of Chicago where he raised his family. Jack had never spoken of his internment and did not react much to the new American Nazis either.

Years later, as Jack began to teach Holocaust education in high schools, he decided, with his son Eli, to return to Jack's village in Poland for the first time in 65 years. The film frames this journey, from turbulent Skokie through Jack's finding warmth and hostility in his native Poland, where he and Eli find a new understanding of the Holocaust and each other. It ends with a march with Jewish teens at Auschwitz.

Jack's journey brings new ways of understanding the Holocaust by finding a way to survive Skokie as well.

If you have a survivor in your family survivor or are close to one, this is a wonderful way to create a deeper and loving discussion of that experience.

[Click here](#) to make a reservation for your family and friends.

Photos of the Week:

Fall and Winter Fun in ECLC! Children have been enjoying enrichment classes such as Woodworking, Gymnastics, Zumba, Cooking, Outdoor Classroom, and much more!



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



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