



UNIVERSITY  
SYNAGOGUE  
Connect. Engage. Discover.

## THE TORCH

March 1, 2017 | 3 Adar 5777

**15 more days**  
**until Heroes Among US**

Have you purchased tickets yet?

Have you registered for the mobile auction?

**Click here to do all of the above!**

### This Week

**Friday, 3/3**

**6:30 pm**

Family Shabbat with UNITY participation

**Saturday, 3/4**

**9 am**

Hevrah Torah

**10 am**

Bat Mitzvah of Tiana Nikkhoo

### An Unexpected Experience at NFTY Convention

Asher Bank

Vice President, NFTY SoCal

Waiting in the lobby of the Hyatt Regency in Chicago, I anticipated the arrival of my friends from my region, NFTY Southern California. I walked the perimeter of the first floor of the hotel with my best friend, perusing around for people that I knew were coming. But I experienced something unlike no other: encountering surprise after surprise after surprise.

As I walked around in search of those from my temple and city, I would run into a friend I'd made at NFTY Mechina 2016 (a North American training event for regional leaders). In that moment that we'd first approach each other, we'd lock eyes, gasp, and embrace like we'd known each other forever, even if we'd just had one or two conversations at Mechina.

[Click here to read full and original article on NFTY's website.](#)

## Security Update

Dear Friends,

We are all concerned about the rise in antisemitism in our country, from calls to Jewish Centers to cemetery desecration. As we have learned about threatening calls to the JCC on the Westside and in Westlake Village, we wanted to address the concerns of our congregants.

Every security consultant we have ever worked with notes that our systems are among the best available. Over these past few years we have added appropriate enhancements to our ongoing security procedures to protect our children and adults. Last year a blue chip committee of the Board of Trustees suggested physical changes which we have followed and implemented. We regularly hold drills in our schools. There have been no specific threats or actions directed at University Synagogue. Nevertheless we are adding a third guard today, to our normal two guards. [Please click here to read the full statement.](#)



### Bat Mitzvah Spotlight: Tiana Nikkhoo

**Tiana Nikkhoo** is the daughter of **Terry and Kevin Nikkhoo**.

**School:**  
Paul Revere Middle School

**Spiritual Highlight:**  
Being able to celebrate becoming a Bat Mitzvah while being surrounded by my friends and family.

**Tzedakah Project:**  
I am volunteering at the No Kill LA pet adoption center and donating my hair for cancer.

## Zichronam Livrachah

Joan Freeman, wife of Thomas Freeman (z"l), and mother of Melanie and Jonathan



ALL THINGS HEROES

Friday, March 31 at 7:30 pm



### "Media in the Age of President Trump" with Scott Siegler

Mr Siegler graduated, Phi Beta Kappa, from Union College with a BA degree in Philosophy and English Literature. He holds a MA degree from the University of Toronto where he studied under Prof. Marshall McLuhan. He received an MFA at Brandeis in Theatre Arts and began to write and produce films. His career took him to NBC, then Vice President of drama at CBS, Director of Creative Affairs at Warner Brothers, founder of Tri Star Television which merged with the older, larger Columbia Pictures Television to become Sony Television. He is currently Chairman of the Washington, DC-based Center for Public Integrity (CPI) and its off-shoot the International Consortium of Investigative Journalism (ICIJ). CPI won the Pulitzer Prize last year for its series on black lung disease, and ICIJ released the global stories on tax havens and secret corporations called the Panama Papers. He is also on the board of the Shorenstein Center for media and politics, based at Harvard's Kennedy School of Government.



### COOK WITH US & MAKE A DIFFERENCE IN PEOPLES' LIVES

We are now booking for this upcoming date: **March 22** from **5:30 to 7:30 pm**. (Cloverfield Service Center in Santa Monica)

Our theme is "5 Ingredients for \$5 Dollars Or Less", and the meals have been delicious. Email [Susan Corwin](#) or [Ellen Dorros](#) for more information and to secure a date.



UniSyn Calendar

## Community Calendar

*Sunday, March 5, 2017, 4 pm*

**Shalom Hartman Institute presents: Visions For A Shared Society: The "Tribes" of Israel with Elana Stein Hain and Rabbi Morley T. Feinstein**

What are the core values 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? **All lectures are free for members of University Synagogue.** [Click here to register.](#)

Location: Temple Beth Am (1039 S La Cienega Blvd, Los Angeles, CA 90035)

*Tuesday, March 7, 2017, 7:00 pm*

**The Golden Rule: Is There Still Common Ground Today?**

Join us for an Interfaith dialogue as Episcopalian, Muslim, Sikh, and Jewish leaders discuss issues of mutual concern. Moderated by Rabbi Morley Feinstein and Cantor Kerith Spencer-Shapiro. All are invited.  
Location: University Synagogue

*Sunday, March 12, 11 am*  
**Purim Megillah Reading**

*Sunday, March 19, 5:15 pm*

**Partners in Peace: An Israeli-Palestinian Dialogue with Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger and Ali Abu Awwad**

For more information, call (310) 476-2861

Location: Leo Baeck Temple (1300 North Sepulveda Blvd. Los Angeles, CA 90049)

*Monday, March 27, 7:30 pm*

**Fighting Hate, Teaching Tolerance, Seeking Justice**

More info: [TempleIsaiah.com](http://TempleIsaiah.com)

**THE GOLDEN RULE:  
IS THERE STILL COMMON GROUND TODAY?**



The Rev. Francisco J. Garcia, Jr.   Tasneem Noor   Nirinjan Singh Khalsa   Rabbi Joel T. Simonds

**Join us for an Interfaith Dialogue  
as Episcopalian, Muslim, Sikh, and Jewish Leaders  
Discuss Issues of Mutual Concern**

**Moderated by:  
Rabbi Morley T. Feinstein  
Cantor Kerith Spencer-Shapiro**

**Tuesday, March 7, 2017  
7:00 pm**

**University Synagogue  
11960 Sunset Blvd., LA 90049**

**All are invited.  
Please forward to your friends and family.**

PURIM



# Megillah Reading



Sunday, March 12  
11:00 AM





SHALOM HARTMAN INSTITUTE מכון  
OF NORTH AMERICA שלום הרטמן



## VISIONS FOR A SHARED SOCIETY: THE "TRIBES" OF ISRAEL

LOS ANGELES SYNAGOGUE COLLABORATIVE LECTURE SERIES



### The Ethics of Living in a Shared Society

**ELANA STEIN HAIN**

Director of Leadership Education  
Shalom Hartman Institute  
of North America

Sunday, March 5, 2017

4:00 – 6:00pm

Temple Beth Am,  
Los Angeles

**New!**

Post-lecture dinner &  
discussion 6:00-8:00 pm  
by RSVP only.

All lectures are free for members of sponsoring organizations.

Non-members: series pass - \$75 / individual lectures - \$20

Post lecture dinner & discussion at additional cost.

See [shalomhartman.org/LAcollaborative](http://shalomhartman.org/LAcollaborative) for cost, details, and registration.

Generously funded by the Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles

**THE FOUNDATION**  
JEWISH COMMUNITY FOUNDATION  
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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



# Partners In Peace: An Israeli-Palestinian Dialogue

with Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger and Ali Abu Awwad

March 19, 2017 - 5:15 p.m.

Leo Baeck Temple

1300 North Sepulveda Blvd.

Los Angeles, CA 90049



Rabbi Hanan Schlesinger

Rabbi Schlesinger is an Orthodox Rabbi, teacher and passionate Zionist settler from Alon Shvut in the West Bank. He serves as the International Director of Roots, which he helped found at the beginning of 2014, to bring together Jewish Israelis and Palestinians, both Muslim and Christian.

Ali Abu Awwad

Ali is a leading Palestinian activist teaching his countryman non-violent resistance, and reaching out to Jewish Israelis at the heart of the conflict. He has toured the world telling his riveting story of violent activism, imprisonment, bereavement, and discovery of the path of non-violent resistance and personal transformation.

**FIGHTING  
HATE  
TEACHING  
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SEEKING  
JUSTICE**

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MARCH 27  
7:30 P.M.  
RSVP @ TEMPLEISAIAH.COM

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70  
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UNIVERSITY SYNOGOGUE

WITH  
**JOSEPH J. LEVIN, JR.**  
SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER CO-FOUNDER

University Synagogue | 11960 Sunset Blvd., Los Angeles, CA 90049

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