

REFLECTIONS

An American Story

2010 SEASON KICKS OFF

People in search of a better life, free from persecution, inspire us to build a brighter future. 2010 begins at the Maltz Museum with programs and exhibitions showcasing equality, self-determination and immigrants who made their mark.

Our cornerstone program, Stop the Hate: Youth Speak Out!, drew more than 1,800 essays from students sharing thoughts about hate and providing positive solutions to affect change. Winners will be recognized in a March ceremony where \$100,000 in scholarships and prizes will be awarded.

Martin Luther King, Jr. Day and Presidents' Day offer object lessons in how hate and discrimination can be overcome. Each year we open free to the public on MLK Day, and again this year community members participated in programs emphasizing that we are all of the same human race.

American Presidents have waged their own battles against hate and persecution - from George Washington's assurance that the United States "... gives to bigotry no sanction, to persecution no assistance..." to Abraham Lincoln's countermanding General Grant's 1862 expulsion of Jews in Kentucky, Tennessee and Mississippi. On February 15, you'll hear directly from three presidents – Washington, Lincoln and FDR – as portrayed by Museum volunteers (see Program Calendar).

You'll find a fascinating letter from President Thomas Jefferson in Women & Spirit, Catholic Sisters in America, opening Mother's Day, May 9, 2010. Experience another perspective on immigration through the eyes of Sisters as they waged their own battles against social injustice, gender discrimination and religious persecution. Check out our website for more on this exhibition coming straight from The Smithsonian Institution in Washington, D.C.





CLEVELAND

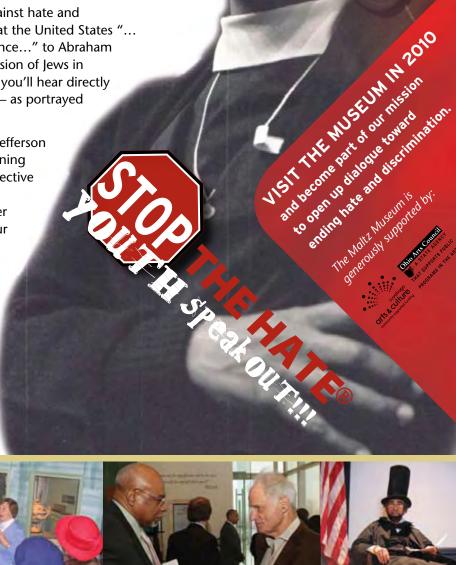




















FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

JUDI FENIGER



A recent study from the non-partisan Pew Research Center, Global Restrictions on Religion, shares very sobering data. A third of the world's countries, home to nearly 70% of the world population,

have high or very high restrictions on religion. There are public tensions between religious groups in 87% of all countries of the world, and in 64%, hostilities include physical violence.

What does this mean to us in America? While we enjoy many freedoms, there is still much work to be done. In our own country, hate crimes have increased every year since the FBI began keeping statistics in 1990. The Southern Poverty Law Center documents 926 hate groups in America, an increase of more than 50% in ten years.

What can we do? As individuals, we can participate and encourage our representatives to legislate. We can work to make sure that *never again* applies worldwide. We can lend our voices to organizations that further this goal.

At the Museum, we're focusing more attention and resources on generating dialogue and action. Thousands of area students contributed their thoughts through our Stop The Hate: Youth Speak Out! Essay Contest; tens of thousands have taken Museum tours to learn about the Holocaust and the lessons of history (including a new Stop The Hate! tour). Special exhibitions spotlight different ways we can learn from history - please join us beginning in February for a stunning collection of vintage World War I and II propaganda posters, and May - August, Women & Spirit (covered in this issue, and at maltzmuseum.org).

EVENTS TAKE CENTER STAGE

This November, the Museum was full of energy as visitors enjoyed a number of special events.

We were delighted to work with Siegal College to host a reception for 80 guests before a sell-out lecture at the College. Dr. Susannah Heschel, daughter of acclaimed civil rights activist Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel, joined an all-star panel – U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown, UN Ambassador Andrew Young, Congressman Louis Stokes, Reverend Marvin McMickle and Jewish Community Federation President Stephen Hoffman – as they discussed their connections with Rabbi Heschel, and his essential work on social action and involvement in the Civil Rights Movement. Guests mingled and met the outstanding group of speakers while raising money for Museum and College programs.

A few days later, the stars aligned to create an evening both magical and important. Frances Brent, talented and empathetic author of *The Lost Cellos of Lev Aronson* (about the world-renowned cellist, Holocaust survivor and teacher), captivated the audience reading from her work and talking about the writing process. Brian Thornton, a student of Aronson's and now a cellist with the Cleveland Orchestra, struck an emotional chord with his beautiful music and stories of his beloved teacher. The evening was co-sponsored by The Cleveland Orchestra, Kol Israel and the Museum. More than 120 guests came to hear Frances and Brian's moving performances.

Events like these provide excellent opportunities to further our mission to build bridges of understanding with all people. Stories of hate and prejudice become cautionary tales. Whether we focus on civil rights or the lessons of the Holocaust, hate in word, speech or deed is a corrosive poison.



(I) Museum Director of Administration Laurie Hughes and former Trustee Jacob Hennenberg. (r) Joe Kanfer and Ohio Jewish Communities Executive Director Joyce Garver Keller take a moment from their conversation.



vic gelb catches up with Edwina and Rev. Dr. Otis Moss, Jr. during the **Lost Cellos** reception.



Author Frances Brent shares Lev Aronson's story with event quests.

VINTAGE POSTER COLLECTION ON DISPLAY FEBRUARY-MARCH

During both world wars, our nation used posters to recruit, raise funds and exhort civilians to conserve. A collection of vintage war propaganda posters will be shown together for the first time at the Maltz Museum, opening February 3.

These exquisitely designed examples of wartime and period art were often created by famous illustrators like Howard Chandler Christy and James Montgomery Flagg, and are prized for their rarity, use of color and creative use of imagery. A private collector spent decades amassing the collection.

They'll be here just a short time, through March 9, free with regular Museum admission. See some of the posters or learn more at maltzmuseum.org, or call 216-593-0575.



YOU GOTTA HAVE FRIENDS

Volunteers are indispensable here – leading tours, in the store and admissions, in the office and on Speaker's Bureau. Now, they've formed **Friends of the Maltz Museum**, raising funds to help support operations and programs

Join the Friends for Purim at the Maltz, Sunday, February 28, 2010, 7pm to 9pm. The Purim Shpiel is the evening's highlight - a lively debate on the finer points of Judaism. Costumes optional; wear one, and you might win a prize! Refreshments throughout the evening. \$10 members, \$12 non-members.

To make a reservation, call 216-593-0585.

Shabbat dinners are also on the menu to introduce groups (minimum 20 people) of any faith to our Sabbath in a fun and educational evening. A tour of ritual objects, candle lighting, prayers and a delicious dinner (from Mr. Brisket) with Friends' members, plus all-gallery access. For more information and pricing, contact us.

To learn more, join Friends or volunteer, contact Martha Sivertson, 216-593-0587 or msiverston@mmjh.org. We'd be happy to help you find your place "among Friends".



As an additional incentive to stop by (who knew you needed a reason to shop?), we're giving away a Stained Glass Star of David with each purchase of \$25 or more. One per customer, please. Offer good through April 6, 2010 or while they last.

MUSEUM STORE IS YOUR SHOPPING DESTINATION



one-of-a-kind merchandise.

Whether you're shopping for gifts - or that something special for yourself - we've got the best selection (and great prices, too!)



PASSOVER-MANIA!

Add a colorful touch to your Seder table this year.

Inspired by the rich colors and intricate designs of Persia, this colorful hand painted ceramic Seder plate features a peacock whose signature tail feathers fan out to reveal six spaces labeled in both English and Hebrew for the Seder's ceremonial foods. From Copa Judaica. Peacock Seder Plate, \$60

This exquisite hand-painted matzoh plate complements the Peacock Seder Plate, or can stand alone as a focal point for your table. Peacock Matzoh Plate, \$35





Did you know...

- ▶The Museum Store has free, close-in parking and is open during all Museum hours
 - ▶ It's located just a few steps inside our front door
- ▶ You'll always find helpful assistance – and free gift-wrapping!

SPECIAL OCCASIONS

CELEBRATIONS

WEDDINGS

MITZVAHS

HOSTESS GIFTS

MILESTONES

FEATURES OF THE SEASON

At the advent of World War I, the poster was the most important form of mass communication in the United States and Europe, so it was no surprise that posters began to be used for a different type of advertising: propaganda. Posters were used to encourage enlistment in the armed forces, promote the conservation of food and natural resources, raise funds and arouse patriotism. Get caught up in the excitement – and bring home a fabulous piece of art in the process. Choose from one of 16 different posters. Poster, \$12





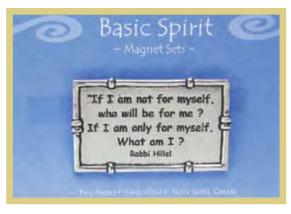


THIS CLEVER CUP WILL DELIGHT AND AMAZE YOUR GUESTS

Each year you fill Elijah's cup, invite him to join your seder, open the door and then wait. Did he take a sip? This year, everyone will see the wine disappear. Kids love trying to figure out this magical cup. Elijah Drinks Cup, \$40



ANNIVERSARIES



Basic Spirit designs and creates products to touch the heart & delight the senses. Their pewter is handcrafted in a seaside studio in Pugwash, Nova Scotia. Believing in the possibility of a flourishing life for all, they contribute 10% of profits to charitable organizations. Measuring 2 inches by 3 inches, this inspiring magnet says "If I am not for myself, who will be for me? If I am not for others, what am I? And if not now, when", and comes in a lovely gift box! Rabbi Hillel Quote Magnet, \$20



CALENDAR OF EVENTS



JANUARY

MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. DAY

Monday, January 18 Free admission 11am-5pm 2-3pm Free Special Musical Performance



Martin Luther King, Jr.

Participate in our tribute to Martin Luther King, Jr. with guided tours of the American Story Gallery, where the stories of how individuals overcame discrimination, prejudice and adversity come

to life. Young and old alike will enjoy the special musical performance Unchained: From Slavery to Civil Rights featuring vocalist Evelyn Wright and a trio of some of Cleveland's finest musicians from Roots of American Music.

This program is part of A Day of Community Celebration co-sponsored by Fairmount Temple and Trinity Episcopal Cathedral.

Visit Fairmount Temple 9am—Noon for music, storytelling, art and special projects benefiting Homeless Stand Down

COURSE: STOP HATE AND REPAIR THE WORLD: RESPONSES TO RACISM AND ANTI-SEMITISM IN CLEVELAND JEWISH HISTORY

Tuesdays, Jan. 26, Feb. 2 & 9, 7pm

Learn how racism and anti-Semitism have plagued Cleveland since its earliest days; how Blacks and Jews were prevented from living in many neighborhoods and how the Klan, Nazis and Fascists openly organized in our city. Explore how Jewish tradition has addressed these issues and struggled against discrimination and hatred to create a more diverse and tolerant community. Sessions will feature tours of the Museum, lectures and discussion led by Mark Davidson, Maltz Museum Manager of School & Family Programs, along with special guests from the community.

Register through Siegal College of Judaic Studies 216-464-4050 or Iliebling@siegalcollege.edu

PANEL DISCUSSION: ECONOMY AND INNOVATION: CLEVELAND'S IMMIGRANT ENTREPRENEURS

Wednesday, January 27, 7pm \$10/\$8 members

Can the fresh ideas, entrepreneurial zeal and optimism of Cleveland's immigrant past repeat itself to develop a bright and creative future for our city? Join a lively discussion moderated by Lev Gonick, Vice President for Information Technology Services/Chief Information Officer at CWRU and a distinguished panel—recent Israeli arrival and CEO of AlphaMirror, Yehuda Borenstein; international partnership specialist and Founder/President of 5iTech LLC, Leon Polott; and Albert B. Ratner, Co-chairman of the Board, Forest City Enterprises, Inc.

Co-sponsored by the SAGES program at Case Western Reserve University

HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday & Sunday11am - 5pm
Wednesday11am - 9pm
SaturdayNoon - 5pm
MondayClosed
Museum open daily for group tours and private events
beginning at 9am and on Mondays.

www.MaltzMuseum.org

DROP-IN TOURS

Sundays at 2pm

Groups of 10 or more, please schedule in advance. (groupsales@mmjh.org)

For FREE admission every day, exclusive events and reduced program fees, become a Maltz Museum member today!

To purchase tickets or become a member, please call 216-593-0575 or email info@mmjh.org



CALENDAR OF EVENTS

FEBRUARY

PERFORMANCE: KARAMU HOUSE THEATRE: LANGSTON LISTENS TO AMERICA

Wednesday, February 10, 7pm \$15/\$12 members

Honor Black History Month with an exceptional performance of Langston Hughes' poetry by actors from Karamu House Theatre. Through stories of the Black experience, Hughes portrays the struggles of all who experience hatred and discrimination. This dramatic choreopoem combines music, movement, performance, and narration.



PRESIDENTS' DAY

Monday, February 15, 2-3pm Free with museum admission

Meet three of America's most fascinating presidents—George Washington, Abraham Lincoln and Franklin Delano Roosevelt as they tell you in person about their life, times and relationship with the Jewish people. Have your picture taken with one or all of these famous men and enjoy some of their favorite desserts - apple, peach and pecan pies!



FILM PREVIEW AND COMMUNITY **CONVERSATION: JOURNEY TO** FREEDOM WITH FILM PRODUCER **ARTEMIS JOUKOWSKY**

Wednesday, February 17, 7-9pm Free - Reservations Required

Journey to Freedom tells the story of Waitstill Sharp, a Unitarian minister and his wife Martha, who days prior to the Nazi occupation of Czechoslovakia left their children in Massachusetts to embark on an uncertain journey. Armed only with their faith and determination, they helped thousands of refugees and assisted anti-Nazi dissidents and Jews as they escaped to safety. This program is part of a national speaker series presented by Facing History and Ourselves and the Allstate Foundation.

For more information or to reserve your seat call Facing History at 216-321-9220

MARCH

FILM: MAKING TROUBLE: TO BE FUNNY, JEWISH AND **FEMALE (90 MINUTES)**

Wednesday, March 10, 7pm \$10/\$8 members



While Jewish humor is a nearly inseparable part of the story of comedy in America, the contribution of Jewish women to laughter is less widely acknowledged. Celebrate Women's History Month with a

fascinating look at six of the greatest female comic entertainers—Molly Picon, Fanny Brice, Sophie Tucker, Joan Rivers, Gilda Radner and Wendy Wassersteinand the changing portrait of Jewish women in the 20th century. Comedy performer, Deena Mendlowitz, co-founder of Friends with Benefits Improv leads a post-viewing discussion.

MUSIC AND HUMOR: DRIVING MR. KLEZMER

Wednesday, March 24, 7pm \$15/\$12 members



Bert Straton and Alan Douglass

Hop in the old Ford Tsuris for a back roads, clutch-poppin' trip—a jaunt through the states of Klezmer, Old-Time Swing, Pop Music and Spoken Word. **Bert**

Straton—a.k.a. Klezmer Guy and leader of Yiddishe Cup—performs comedic and nostalgic prose sketches and plays clarinet, accompanied by chauffeur Alan Douglass on vocals and fuel-injected, moodenhancing piano. This show has no brakes!

APRIL

GUEST LECTURE: THE OLD NEW NEIGHBORHOOD: TAYLOR ROAD

Wednesday, April 14, 7pm \$10/\$8 members



Taylor Road Synagogue

After World War II, Jews, like many other Clevelanders, began to leave the central city. Many settled in the inner suburban ring and Taylor Road became a major hub of institutional and Orthodox Jewish life, with Taylor Road and Park Synagogue, Jewish Family Services Association, the Jewish Community Center and Hebrew Academy all within walking distance. Dr. Sean Martin, Associate Curator for Jewish History at WRHS, explores Taylor Road's past and why the area continues to be a center for Jewish life in Cleveland.



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VISITOR INFORMATION

HOURS

Tuesday, Thursday,
Friday & Sunday11am - 5pm
Wednesday11am - 9pm
SaturdayNoon - 5pm
MondayClosed
Museum open daily for group tours and private events
beginning at 9am and on Mondays.

CLOSED

First Day of Passover (Tuesday, March 30) Eighth Day of Passover (Monday, April 5) Shavout (Wednesday, May 19) Memorial Day (Monday, May 31)

e: info@mmjh.org w: www.MaltzMuseum.org p: 216-593-0575

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The Maltz Museum of Jewish Heritage is a partnership of The Maltz Family Foundation, the Jewish Community Federation's Centennial Initiative and The Temple-Tifereth Israel, with research support from the Western Reserve Historical Society.

HOW DOES THE MUSEUM AFFECT YOU?



In November, Tri-C hosted a night at the Museum.
Students and faculty members from all three campuses toured the Museum and attended a panel discussion, "Generation to Generation" on the profound impact Jewish men and women have made around the globe.



Youth groups are some of our favorite guests! Before the snow hit, BBYO hosted its regional conference in Cleveland and brought nearly 100 attendees for educational programs at the Museum.

After touring, members gathered outside the Museum for activities and socializing.