
2016 – 2017

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
September 19, 2016	Complicit A Documentary Film	With Robert Krakow of the SS St. Louis Legacy Project Foundation and Memphian Dr. Clark Blatteis
November 20, 2016 in the Temple Israel Chapel	Susan Adler Thorp Following her talk, a docent led tour of the gallery, highlighting the collection & the current Yad exhibit	<i>The Herta and Justin H. Adler Judaica Collection</i>
January 22, 2017	David Glasser , Executive Director of the Ben Uri Museum in London	<i>Rewriting History: The Recovery of Nazi-Looted Art</i>
February 12, 2017	Bluma Zuckerbrot-Finkelstein Director, Community Impact Jewish Community Partners	<i>The Recent Community Trip to Poland and Israel: Reflections and Reverberations</i>
March 26, 2017	Dr. Stephen Whitfield Max Richter Chair in American Civilization, Brandeis University	<i>Jews Against the Ku Klux Klan</i>
April 2, 2017	Opening of the Exodus Project Russian Archival Exhibit and Program	Lynnie Mirvis, Project Chairman; Russian choir from Plough Towers; Immigrants' stories
April 30, 2017	Marlene Trestman Author, former Maryland Assistant Attorney General	<i>Fair Labor Lawyer: the Remarkable Life of New Deal Attorney and Supreme Court Advocate Bessie Margolin</i>
May 21, 2017	Robyn Helzner Washington, D.C. cantor, vocalist & storyteller	<i>The Key to the Casa: Celebrating Jewish Life in Sephardic Spain</i>

[Return to top](#)

2015 – 2016

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
September 24, 2015	<u>Panel Discussion</u> introduced by Katie Smythe. Panelists: Liz Levitt Hirsch, who spearheads Mortimer & Mimi Levitt Foundation; Barry Lichterman, President Emeritus of Friends of the Levitt Pavilion, Memphis; Henry Nelson, Strategic Partnerships Coordinator at Levitt Shell.	<i>How the Levitt Shell Came to Memphis</i>
October 11, 2015	<u>Robert Goldsmith</u> Executive Director of the Blumberg Family Jewish Community Services of Dothan	<i>The Dothan Story</i>
November 15, 2015	<u>Dr. Ralph Nurnberger</u> Professor, Georgetown University	<i>Yitzak Rabin: Personal Reflections on Israel's Man of War & Peace</i>
December 13, 2015	<u>Dr. Stephen Stein</u> Professor, History Department, University of Memphis	<i>David's Sling: The Development of the Israeli Defense Industry</i>
January 17, 2016	<u>Gene Dattel</u> Financial historian, author of <i>Cotton & Race in the Making of America</i>	<i>Beyond Ruleville: Journey of a Delta Jew</i>
March 13, 2016	<u>Jonathan Judaken</u> , Spence L. Wilson Chair in the Humanities at Rhodes Colleg	<i>Reckoning with Post-Holocaust Anti-Semitism in Europe</i>
April 10, 2016	Film: <u>Draw Back the Curtain</u>	Documentary about resettlement of Jews from former Soviet Union in Richmond, VA
May 22, 2016	<u>Robyn Helzner</u> , Washington, D.C. cantor, vocalist & storyteller	<i>Back in the USSR: the Struggle to Free Soviet Jews</i>

[Return to top](#)

2014 – 2015

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
September 14, 2014	Ambassador Dennis Ross Author & expert on the Middle East & Soviet Union	<i>The United States-Israel Relationship in Today's Middle East</i>
October 14, 2014	Baila Miller Lecturer	<i>The Making of Modernism: The Jewish World, Art and Culture</i>
November 9, 2014	Ralph Nurnberger Professor, Georgetown University	<i>How the Danes saved their Jews from the Nazis</i>
December 14, 2014	Dr. Beverly Tsacoyianis Assistant Professor of Modern Middle East History	<i>Religion and Politics in the Arab Spring: A Case Study of the Islamic State</i>
January 22, 2015	<i>An Evening at the Civil Rights Museum</i>	Tour and Dessert
February 15, 2015	Dr. Dan Bahat Former Head Archeologist of Jerusalem & Professor of Archeology, Bar Ilan University	
March 22, 2015	<i>Memphis Jewish Heritage Bus Tour</i>	Tour and anecdotes with Judy Ringel, author of <i>Children of Israel: The Story of Temple Israel, 1854-2004</i>
April 12, 2015	Dr. Joyce Antler Professor, Brandeis University; Author of <i>You Never Call! You Never Write! The History of the Jewish Mother</i>	Through a mixture of stereotypes, culture, & fable, the Jewish mother is demystified
May 31, 2015	Robyn Helzner Washington, D.C. cantor, vocalist & storyteller	<i>Kreplach and Dim Sum: Yes! There Are Jews in China!</i>

[Return to top](#)

2013 – 2014

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
September 15, 2013	George Lapidès Hall of Fame Memphis Sportscaster and Sports Reporter	George will share his insights into sports in Memphis and beyond
October 30, 2013, at the University of Memphis Fogelman Center, Rm 136 at 7:00 P.M.	Dr. David Jacobson Author, Lecturer & Editor of prestigious <i>Palestine Exploration Quarterly</i>	<i>The Jerusalem Temple of Herod the Great</i>
November 10, 2013	Patricia Lapointe McFarland Author of <i>Memphis Medicine: A History of Science and Service</i>	<i>Reforms & Research: Contributions of Jewish Physicians to Memphis Medicine</i>
December 22, 2013	Dr. Steve Tabachnik Professor of English at University of Memphis	<i>Lawrence of Arabia and the Jews</i>
January 12, 2014	Rabbi Adam Grossman Associate Rabbi, Temple Israel	<i>Truth, Justice and the Jewish Way: A Historical Analysis of Jews and the Comic Book Superhero</i>
February 9, 2014	Dr. Dan Unowsky Professor, Director of Graduate Studies at University of Memphis	<i>Vienna 1900: Jews, Modern Culture, and Anti-Semitism at the Fin de Siècle</i>
March 2, 2014	Leonard Rogoff Author, research historian for Jewish Heritage Foundation of North Carolina	<i>Down Home Cantata: Jewish Life in Eastern North Carolina</i>
May 18, 2014	Dr. Paul Bierman Gastroenterologist, Memphis	<i>The History of Ancient Israel as told through Jewish Coins from Antiquity</i>
June 1, 2014	Rabbi Samuel Stahl Rabbi Emeritus, Temple Beth-El, San Antonio, TX	<i>The Future of Jewish Religious Denominations in North America</i>

[Return to top](#)

2012 – 2013

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
October 5, 2012	Phil Steel Philadelphia Historian, a descendant of Commodore Uriah Levy, veteran of Valley Forge	<i>Early American Jewry, My Family</i>
November 12, 2012	Robert Wistrich Hebrew University, Jerusalem, the JCC Holocaust scholar, co-sponsored with Rhodes College	<i>From Ambivalence to Betrayal: The Left, the Jews, and Israel</i>
November 27, 2012 to be held at Rhodes College	Amy Singer Tel Aviv University co-sponsored with Rhodes College	<i>The Ottoman Occupation of Jerusalem</i>
December 9, 2012	Dr. Mark Kaplowitz Visiting Scholar of Judaic Studies, University of Memphis	<i>Spinoza and the Jewish Community</i>
January 13, 2013	Dr. Lee Shai Weissbach Professor of History, University of Louisville	<i>Synagogue Buildings, and the Patterns of American Jewish Life</i>
February 17, 2013	Phyllis Goldstein Author of <i>A Convenient Hatred: The History of Antisemitism</i> ; Co-sponsored with Facing History and Ourselves	
March 18, 2013 held at Temple Israel	Dr. A. B. Yehoshua Haifa University, Co-Sponsored with Rhodes and Temple Israel	<i>The Arab-Israeli Conflict Today</i>
April 28, 2013	<i>Memphis Jewish Heritage Bus Tour</i> Co-sponsored with Bornblum Judaic Studies, U of Memphis	Tour and anecdotes with Judy Ringel, author of <i>Children of Israel: The Story of Temple Israel, 1854-2004</i>
May 19, 2013	Robert Gillette Educator and Author, Co-sponsored with Bornblum Judaic Studies, U of Memphis	<i>The Virginia Plan: William B. Thalhimer & A Rescue From Germany</i>
June 9, 2013	Annual Meeting	Film: <i>Jewish Soldiers in Blue & Gray and Recognition of the Selma Lewis Scholars</i>

[Return to top](#)

2011-2012

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
September 11, 2011	Leo Bearman, Jr. Prominent attorney & teacher	<i>The United States vs. Holmes</i> , a maritime case decided in accordance with Jewish law
October 16, 2011	Escorted Bus Tour of Elmwood Cemetery with emphasis on Jewish internees.	
November 13, 2011	Panel: Moderator: Dr. Norman Shapiro; Panelists: Jimmy Ogle & Patricia LaPointe McFarland	<i>The History of the 19th Century Jewish Settlers in Memphis</i>
January 15, 2012	Bryan Stone Author, associate professor of History, Del Mar College	<i>The Chosen Folks: Writing about the Jews of Texas</i>
March 25, 2012	Jonathan Sarna Author, professor Brandeis University	Review of his latest book, <i>When General Grant Expelled the Jews</i>
	<i>Trips</i>	
June 8-10, 2012	Philadelphia trip to National Museum of American Jewish History and attending <i>Slaying the Dragon</i> , a Memphis-based opera	

[Return to top](#)

2010-2011

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
May 15, 2011 25 th Anniversary Program	Michael Rosenzweig President & CEO of National Museum of American Jewish History, Philadelphia	

[Return to top](#)

2009-2010

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
February 18, 2010	Dr. Sara Abosch Bornblum Visiting Scholar in Judaic Studies, U. of Memphis	<i>How the Jews Became English: Fashioning a Community After Exile and Readmission</i>
April 18, 2010	Film: <i>West of Hester Street</i> , a docudrama on Jewish immigrants who arrived in Galveston between 1907 and 1914.	
June 6, 2010	Leo Bearman, Jr. & Ed Young Attorneys with Baker, Donelson, Bearman law firm	<i>Rabbi, You're Fired! The Bizarre Lawsuit of The Congregation of the Children of Israel vs. Jacob J. Peres</i>

[Return to top](#)

2008-2009

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
September 4, 2008 At Panhellenic Building, U. of Memphis	Nina Katz Holocaust Survivor	<i>Out of the Night: The Life and Legacy of Holocaust Survivor Nina Katz; Co-sponsored with Bornblum Judaic Studies at U. of Memphis</i>
October 26, 2008	<i>Orthodox Stance</i> , a film about Jewish boxer Dmitriy Salita with discussion by filmmaker Jason Hutt	
November 9, 2008 at the Hillel House	Program with Hillel on the 70 th Anniversary of Kristallnacht; Co-sponsored with Hillel of Memphis & Memphis Jewish Federation	
December 2, 2008	David Patterson Chair of Excellence of Bornblum Judaic Studies at U. of Memphis	<i>Overcoming Alienation: A Kabbalistic Reflection of the Five Levels of the Soul</i>
January 22, 2009	Film: <i>The Monster Among Us</i> , A documentary on contemporary anti-Semitism; Co-sponsored with Bornblum Judaic Studies at the U. of Memphis and Memphis Friends of Israel; with discussion by filmmaker Allen Mondell, visiting scholar Elliot Chodoff, and David Patterson	
February 22, 2009	Elliot Chodoff Visiting Bornblum Lemsky scholar, U. of Memphis	<i>The War Against Hamas</i> (Part I of three-part lecture series on Israel)
March 15, 2009	Larry Weinberg Founder of Israel 21C	<i>From Rabbis and Rambos to Reality: Israel's Contributions to Humanity</i> (Part II of three-part lecture series)
March 31, 2009	Avi Melamed Noted author & Israeli political analyst	<i>The Future of Jerusalem</i> (Part III of three-part lecture series)
May 31, 2009	Dr. Brenda Brasher Noted author & scholar, Tulane University	<i>Post-Katrina Jewish New Orleans</i>

[Return to top](#)

2007-2008

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
September 4, 2007 (Tuesday, 7:30 PM, Rose Theatre, University of Memphis)	Ever Again , a film on the rise of Islamic and Neo-Nazi Antisemitism narrated by Kevin Costner with Rabbi Aron Hier from the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles	
December 2, 2007	<i>The Ten Lost Tribes</i> – a film and talk by Simcha Jacobovici	
January 27, 2008	Alan Berger	<i>Children of Holocaust Survivors</i>
May 18, 2008	Perre Magness, Memphis historian and author	<i>The Jews of Memphis</i>
September 11, 2008	Nonie Darwish , Author, Activist, & Founding Member of Arabs for Israel	<i>In Remembrance of 9/11</i>
October 26, 2008	Orthodox Stance , a documentary about a 24 year old Jewish Boxer, Dmitriy Salita with remarks by film's creator Jason Hutt	

[Return to top](#)

2006-2007

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
October 9, 2006 (Monday, 7:30 PM)	Robert Rosen	<i>Roosevelt and the Jews</i>
November 5, 2006	Dr. Shmuel Shepkaru, Professor of Jewish Studies, University of Oklahoma	<i>Antisemitism: Medieval & Modern</i>
November 19, 2006	Marcie Cohen Ferris , noted author and lecturer	<i>Matzo Ball Gumbo: Culinary Tales of the Jewish South</i>
January 21, 2007 Belz Museum of Asian and Judaic Art	Jack Belz , A Tour and Talk of the Peabody Place Judaica Museum, with remarks by Leonid Saharovici	
February 5, 2007 (Monday, 7:30 PM)	David Moss , acclaimed Jewish artist	<i>Ketubah Exhibit and lecture on the history of the Ketubah</i>
February 25, 2007	Elliot Chodoff . David Bornblum/Lemsky Visiting Scholar in Israel and Middle East Studies, University of Memphis	<i>Israel, the Middle East, and Terrorism</i>
April 18, 2007 (Wednesday, 7:00 PM) University of Memphis, Mitchell Auditorium	Dr. Holly Shulman , Professor of Women's Studies, University of Virginia	<i>Rethinking Women in the Civil Rights Movement</i>
May 20, 2007	Judy Ringel , former senior editor of <i>Memphis</i> magazine	<i>Planting Jewish Roots in Southern Soil: Tales from the Archives of Temple Israel</i>

[Return to top](#)

2005-2006

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
August 21, 2005 Dixon Gallery	<u>Vivian Jackson</u>	<i>Marc Chagall and Elvis Presley</i>
September 27, 2005 (7:30 PM)	<u>Elliot Chodoff</u>	<i>Disengagement in Gaza</i>
November 13, 2005 Opening event of MJCC Jewish Book Celebration	<u>Panel of local authors:</u> Dr. Louis Cantor, <i>Dewey and Elvis: The Life and Times of a Rock and Roll Deejay</i> ; Anna Olswanger, <i>Shlemiel Crooks</i> ; Dr. David Patterson, <i>Along the Edge of Annihilation: The Collapse and Recovery of Life in the Holocaust Diary</i> ; Dr. H. Pierre Secher, <i>Left Behind in Nazi Vienna: Letters of a Jewish Family Caught in the Holocaust, 1939-1941</i>	
January 26, 2006 (Thursday, 7:30 PM) Faulkner Lounge, University Center at the University of Memphis	<u>Zsuzsanna Ozsvath</u>	<i>Hungarian Jewry and the Holocaust</i>
February 26, 2006	<u>Eli Evans</u>	<i>Southern Jewish Insights into the Changing Religious Ethos of the South</i>
March 26, 2006	<u>Rabbi David Radinsky</u>	<i>The Jews of Charleston: From the 17th to the 19th Century</i>
May 28, 2006	<u>Panel Discussion</u> – Bluma Zuckerbrot, Gerri Patterson, Sharon Knafo, moderated by Dr. David Patterson	<i>The Current Situation in Israel</i>

[Return to top](#)

2004-2005

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
September 19, 2004	Dr. Jean R. Freedman , Oral Historian and Folklorist	12:15 PM: Oral History Workshop 2:00 PM: "S.O.S."— <i>Saving Our Stories</i>
September 26, 2004 (3:00 PM, Fogelman Executive Center, University of Memphis)	Dr. Alan Wells, Noted AMA Ethicist, and Dr. Patricia Herberer , Historian for the Advanced Center for Holocaust Studies, U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum	<i>Medical Ethics After Auschwitz</i>
October 10, 2004	Rabbi Joel Finkelstein , Spiritual Leader of Anshei Sphard-Beth El Emeth Synagogue	<i>Early American Jewry: The Ongoing Legacy of Sephardic Jews</i>
November 7, 2004 (Book Week)	Tova Mirvis , Memphis author	<i>The Outside World</i>
November 10, 2004 (Book Week)	Jonathan Sarna , Brandeis University scholar	<i>American Judaism: A History</i>
January 9, 2005	Tom L. Freudenheim , Former Assistant Secretary for Museums, Smithsonian Institution	<i>Grandparents or Museums—Where Do We Learn About the Past?</i>
February 3, 2005	Dr. Lawrence Schiffman , New York University scholar and author	<i>Secrets of the Dead Sea Scrolls</i>
March 20, 2005	Dr. Richard Siegel , Executive Director of the National Federation for Jewish Culture	<i>Renaissance or Decline: Assessing American Jewish Culture after 350 years</i>
May 15, 2005	Rabbi Shai Finkelsten, Cantor David Julian, Lynnne Mirvis, & moderator Mimi Grossman , panel discussion	<i>Jewish Identity and the Significance of Life Long Learning</i>

[Return to top](#)

2003-2004

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
September 21, 2003	Luis Cortest , Associate Professor of Spanish Language and Literature, University of Oklahoma	<i>Jews and Judeo-Spanish</i>
October 8, 2003 (Wednesday, 7:30 PM Faulkner Lounge, University of Memphis)	Arnost Lustig , Author & Filmmaker	<i>Lovely Green Eyes</i> , Lustig's latest Holocaust novel
October 26, 2003	Howard Schwartz , Professor of English at University of Missouri, St. Louis	<i>Tales of the Great Jewish Mystics</i>
November 10, 2003 (Monday, 7:30 PM)	Bryan Rigg , Author	<i>Hitler's Jewish Soldiers</i> (JCC Jewish Book Celebration)
November 13, 2003, (8:00 PM Germantown Performing Arts Center)	Jonathan Ross , one-man show	<i>Walking in Memphis</i> (special performance dedicated to memory of Selma Lewis)
February 1, 2004 (3:00 PM)	Professor Michael Morgan , Indiana University	<i>Jewish Thought After the Holocaust</i>
April 10, 2004 (Thursday, 7:30 PM Fogelman Executive Center, University of Memphis)	Reuven Firestone , Professor of Medieval Judaism and Islam, Hebrew Union College, Los Angeles	<i>Concepts of Holy War in Judaism and Islam and the Israeli/Palestinian Conflict</i>
May 2, 2004	Professor Zsuzsanna Ozsvath , endowed chair in Holocaust Studies, University of Texas at Dallas	<i>The Jews of Hungary</i>
June 6, 2004	Professor Helen Epstein , Author	<i>Researching where She Came from</i> <i>A Journalist's Approach to Genealogy</i>

[Return to top](#)

2002-2003

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
September 1, 2002	Exhibition : <i>Selections From the Judaica Collection of Jack and Marilyn Belz</i> Curator of Exhibition: Leonid Saharovici; Special presentation by Jack Belz	
October 20, 2002	Charles Ferris , University of Memphis	<i>Jews North and South in the Mississippi Civil Right Movement</i>
November 14, 2002 (Jewish Community Center Book Celebration)	Bill Aron , Photographer	<i>Shalom Y'all – Images of Jewish Life in the American South</i>
January 12, 2003	Dr. David Patterson , Chair of Excellence and Director of Bornblum Judaic Studies at University of Memphis	<i>The Black Book of Lithuanian Jewry</i>
February 2, 2003	Professor Renee Melamed , Schechter Institute in Jerusalem	<i>Defying the Spanish Inquisition: The Crypto-Jewish Women of Castille</i>
February 6, 2003 (Thursday, 7:30 PM) Fogelman Executive Center, University of Memphis	Professor Steve Aschheim , Hebrew University of Jerusalem	<i>Rethinking Anti-Semitism and the Holocaust</i>
June 8, 2003 (7:00 PM)	Stuart Rockoff , Director, History Department, Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life	<i>Circuit Riding Rabbis: How Old Customs Can Meet Today's Challenges</i>

[Return to top](#)

2001-2002

Click on Speaker/Program Title for the program description if available.

To open program description in another window, right click & choose "Open link in a new tab".

<i>Date</i>	<i>Speaker/Program Title</i>	<i>Subject/Title</i>
April 21, 2002 (10:30 AM at Bornblum Solomon Schechter School)	Joyce Field , Vice President of Jewish Gen, Inc.	<i>Jewish Genealogy on the Internet</i> (hands-on workshop)
May 19, 2002	Dr. Mark Greenberg , Director of Resource Center for Florida History, University of South Florida	<i>Discovering Jewish Heritage Along the Mississippi River</i>
May 26, 2002	Abe Kriegel , Professor of History, University of Memphis	<i>A New York Jew in the Land of Elvis</i>

[Return to top](#)
