

Schenectady JCC Jewish Film Festival 2011-2012

Saturday, October 15, 7:30 PM

Jaffa

Israel, 2009, 90 min. Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Karen Yedaya

In the heart of the Israeli city of Jaffa, Reuven's garage is a family-run business. The garage workers consist of Reuven's beautiful daughter Mali, his violent and distant son Meir, as well as a young Palestinian, Toufik. No one suspects that Mali and Toufik are secretly in love. Tension steadily builds between Toufik and Meir, who openly voices his disdain about Arabs. As these relationships continue to intensify, emotions begin to boil, resulting in an astonishing conclusion.

Discussion led by Aaron Benavot, University at Albany



Saturday, November 19, 7:30 PM

Brothers

Israel, 2008, 116 min. Hebrew and Arabic with English subtitles. Dir. Igal Niddam

A tale about two brothers who meet in Israel after many years. Dan works the land and is a secular kibbutz member. Aaron is an Orthodox Jew, a Torah scholar and law professor who came to Jerusalem to defend the rights of Torah students not to join the Army. The conflict that arises between the two brothers reflects a society torn between religious and political principles. Nominated "Best Feature" at the European Film Academy 2009.

Panel discussion with Rabbi Kellman, JERNY, and Ethan Bloch, Bard College



Saturday, December 17, 7:30 PM

Saviors in the Night

Germany, France, 2009, 90 min. German, French, English with subtitles. Dir. Ludi Boeken

A riveting, real-life drama about a Jewish family hidden by a family of Westphalian farmers in Germany during WWII. Escaping deportation, the Spiegel family is offered refuge for nearly three years by a German-Catholic family that rejects fascism, and puts itself at grave risk without hesitation. Danger is all around as SS officers, Nazi youth groups, and frightened peasants threaten to expose them. Guided by a strong sense of morality, this is a powerful, humanity-affirming story in the face of barbarism.

Discussion led by Mark Baskin, University at Albany



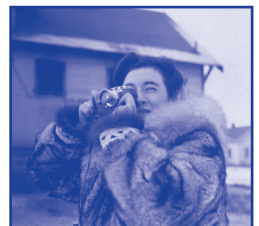
Saturday, January 28, 7:30 PM

Ahead of Time: The Extraordinary Journey of Ruth Gruber

US, 2009, 73 min. English, Hebrew with subtitles. Dir. Bob Richman

Iconic, Brooklyn-born Ruth Gruber is the vibrant subject of this documentary mixed with archival footage and interviews. She was the youngest person in the world to earn a Ph.D. and the first journalist to enter the Soviet Arctic in 1935. During World War II, Ruth escorted 1,000 Holocaust refugees to Oswego, New York for the Interior Department. After the War, she covered the Nuremberg Trials and the Exodus ship for the New York Herald Tribune. Marvel at elegant, spellbinding Ruth as she nears the century mark. "Ruth Gruber is remarkable...a riveting raconteur...an inspiration." - New York Times.

Discussion led by Rob Brill, Times Union



Saturday, February 11, 7:30 PM

The Matchmaker

Israel, 2010, 118 min. Hebrew with English subtitles. Dir. Avi Nesher

In 1968 Haifa, Arik, a teenage boy, gets a summer job working with Yankele, a Holocaust survivor who makes ends meet by brokering marriages. Through the summer, the mysterious matchmaker takes the boy under his wing as the boy spies on potential matches. The experience brings Arik to Haifa's "Lower City," filled with vibrant pedestrian culture and unique characters. Yankele introduces Arik to a new world, built on the ruins of an old one. As Arik begins to learn the mysteries of the human heart through his work with Yankele, he too, falls in love. The film mixes comedy with drama as it tells a coming-of-age story unlike any you've ever seen before.

Discussion led by Janie Garnett

Co-sponsored by Hadassah Capital District



Sunday, February 26, 6:00 PM Optional pizza & salad dinner at 5:00 PM

Inside Hana's Suitcase

Canada, 2011, 60 min. English with English subtitles. Dir. Larry Weinstein

A family friendly program. Students are welcome. The film is the 60 min. version.

The delivery of a battered suitcase to Fumiko Ishioka at the Tokyo Holocaust Museum begins the true-life mystery that became the subject of Karen Levine's book Hana's Suitcase. The suitcase came from the Auschwitz Museum and had Hana Brady's name painted on it. The film follows Fumiko's search to discover the details of Hana's life, which leads to the discovery of her brother George. As small children they had been sent to Theresienstadt after the Nazis invaded Czechoslovakia in 1939. The voices of children from Japan, Canada, and the Czech Republic telling Hana's story are woven around the drama, creating a film of power and hope.

Speaker TBA

Co-sponsored by the Sisterhood of Congregation Gates of Heaven



Saturday, March 17, 7:30 PM

Grace Paley: Collected Shorts

US, 2010, 75 min. Dir. Lilly Rivlin

Literary icon Grace Paley was a master of the short story who wrote with vigor, joy, and humor, establishing her reputation with *Little Disturbances of Man*, an intimate chronicle of Jewish-American urban women. She was also a lifelong political activist with a passion for social justice and peace, a legendary teacher with a wide network of devoted family and friends. Paley became Poet Laureate of Vermont and State Author of New York. This new documentary is an exhilarating testament to a rare kind of joyous, tireless idealism.

Discussion led by Paul Elisha, WAMC North-East Public Radio



Partially supported by
The Jewish Federation of NENY.

Complimentary refreshments will be served at all events. In case of inclement weather, the films will be shown on the following Sunday evening at 7:00 p.m.

Schenectady JCC Jewish Film Festival: October 2011 - March 2012

Please register in advance. No tickets will be sent out. Indicate the number of reservations for individual events. Reservations will be checked at the door. Please mail this form and your payment to: Schenectady Jewish Community Center, 2565 Balltown Road, Niskayuna, NY 12309 • For more information, please call (518) 377-8803.

Program (7 events): \$35, pp Member \$40, pp Non-Member

Director, \$100 (above ticket price) Producer, \$50 (above ticket price)

Individual Events: \$7 Member \$8 Non-Member \$3 Student

Star, \$25 (above ticket price)

Films:

Amount

Sat. 10/15 _____ Sat. 11/19 _____ Sat. 12/17 _____ Sat. 1/28 _____ Sat. 2/11 _____ Sun. 2/26 _____ Sat. 3/17 _____ **Enclosed \$** _____

Sun. 2/26 Dinner _____ (Your check for \$6 above ticket price is your dinner reservation)

Name _____

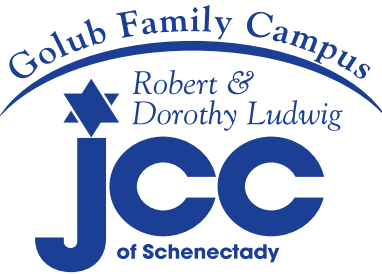
Phone (H) _____ Email _____

To Pay by Credit Card: MasterCard VISA Discover American Express Account No. _____ Expiration Date _____

Name on Credit Card _____ Signature _____

Street Address _____ City/State _____ Zip _____

Mohawk SJCC★ 2565 Balltown Rd.	River (Rt. 146)	Saratoga →
Providence Ave. Downtown Schenectady	Balltown Road	Northway to Albany
Union St.	Rt. 7	to Troy →



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Jewish Community Center of Schenectady
On The Golub Family Campus
2565 Balltown Road, Niskayuna, NY 12309-1096

Directions to the Schenectady JCC:

From Thruway Exit 25: Take 890 to Exit 7 East toward Troy. Go left on Balltown Rd. (Rt. 146). Continue to SJCC.

From the Northway Exit 6: Take Rt. 7 West. Shortly after Agudat Achim Synagogue, turn right on Balltown Rd. (Rt. 146). Continue through 5 lights. The SJCC is on the left.

The Robert & Dorothy Ludwig Schenectady JCC on the Golub Family Campus is a beneficiary agency of Jewish Federation of Northeastern New York

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**We Bring the World's Best Drama to
Your Neighborhood**

The JCC's Jewish Film Festival brings thought-provoking films to Capital Region audiences. The features are probing, charming and disarming. We seek out films related to Jewish themes about life and the things that matter; the comedy and the drama, the joys and the sorrows that connect us to each other, to history and to the future. Each film ends with a group discussion led by a knowledgeable facilitator. Join us for drama at its best in the pleasant company of friends of your nearby Schenectady Jewish Community Center. Your seat is waiting!

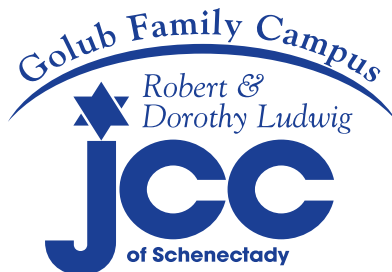
Festival Committee

Co-Chairs: Mark Baskin and Bill Shapiro

Erica Berger, Len Berger, Ellen Blake, Karen Holmes, Gloria Kahn, Joe Krausman, Fran Madison, Arlene Mendelson, Sonia Rubenstein, and Barbara Saunders.

Irit Magnes, Jewish Cultural Director

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