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PROGRAM IN JEWISH STUDIES
SUMMER
NEWSLETTER

STUDENTS • ALUMNI • FACULTY • EVENTS



University of Colorado **Boulder**

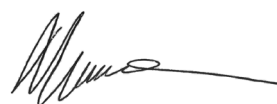


Message from the Director



Thanks to our wonderful students, faculty, staff, community members, and generous donors, the Program in Jewish Studies at the University of Colorado Boulder flourished this year. We hit several high notes with our programming, including my personal favorite – the standing room only third biannual Embodied Judaism Symposium: SHE and exhibition on the Shekhinah. This program rounded out our year-long Community Talks series on mysticism, before we switched to a semester-long focus on Sephardic Jews, with a popular talk by author Ariel Sabar on the Jews of Iraq and a sleeper hit by Professor Aviva Ben-Ur on the Jews of Surinam. (Who knew?)

We awarded three new scholarships, including one for undergraduate research in our ever-growing Post-Holocaust American Judaism Collections, to which we added two new collections. We continued to teach and expand our curriculum, hired two new faculty, one in Israel/Palestine Studies and one instructor, supported faculty research in new areas, and collaborated with several other academic units, including History, English, and Film Studies, among others. We hosted our annual Hebrew Schmooze-a-Palooza, which gets bigger every year and features the musical talents of our faculty and Hebrew students. Watch this space for our *leibedik* (lively) Yiddish-themed programming for 2018-2019, including some fabulous Klezmer-style music and talks about Yiddish poetry, the books smuggled out of Vilna during WW II, and more.



Professor Nan Goodman

Director of the Program in Jewish Studies, Professor of English

Update from the Archives

We are pleased to share the progress made this academic year processing the Post-Holocaust American Judaism (PHAJ) Collections! The **Harry W. Mazal Collection** finding aid is now online, and digital items in the collection are being copied into the University Libraries' digital preservation system. Additionally, many of the fragile video and audio materials in the **Zalman M. Schachter-Shalomi Papers** have been digitized and preserved. Our collections continue to grow with our most recently acquired collections from **Vanessa Ochs** and **Rayzel Raphael**. Finding aids for all collections are now posted on the PHAJ Collections website along with the video recording of our third biannual **Embodied Judaism Symposium: SHE**.



Want to learn more?
colorado.edu/Post-HolocaustAmericanJudaismCollections

Jane Thaler, Project Archivist for the PHAJ Collections, has left her position at CU Boulder to continue her education. We are grateful to Jane for her commitment to the collections and wish her the best! We are delighted to welcome to the PHAJ team **Megan Friedel**, the new Head of Archives for the Department of Special Collections, Archives and Preservation, and new archivists **Kalyani Fernando** and **Katelyn Morken**. We look forward to working with them to expand research and learning opportunities in these unique collections.

A heartfelt thanks to our community for its continued support of the PHAJ Collections. Gifts enable us to pursue digitization and copyright projects, support student fellowships, and create community learning opportunities.

Learn more about giving: colorado.edu/jewishstudies/giving

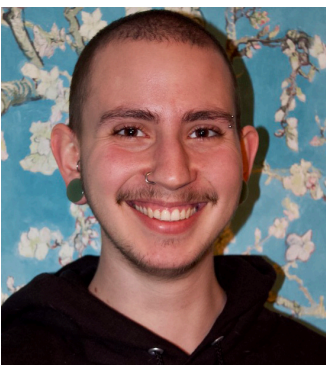
NEW GRADUATE CERTIFICATE

We are pleased to announce the launch of a Jewish Studies Graduate Certificate! Beginning this Fall 2018, the certificate program will allow graduate students interested in Jewish studies across the CU Boulder campus to explore Jewish culture, history, society, and thought in a number of disciplines. The certificate is open to all currently matriculated graduate students at any point in their graduate career at CU.

Learn more on our website: colorado.edu/jewishstudies/graduate/certificate

Student Life

Students are the life-force of Jewish Studies, and we continue to expand our student academic and funding opportunities for CU Buffs. The Program in Jewish Studies boasts two Major concentrations, a Culture Intensive track and a Foreign Language Intensive track, as well as a Minor in Jewish Studies, a Minor in Hebrew & Israel Studies, and our new Graduate Certificate. Each of these avenues provides students of all backgrounds with the professional skills they need to succeed in the job market. Many undergraduates participate in our Internship course, which offers hands-on professional experience. Students pursuing a senior Capstone Project have the opportunity to conduct original research in a variety of fields under the guidance of our award-winning faculty. In addition to diverse courses, PJS offers a number of funding opportunities for undergraduate and graduate students and continues to add new scholarships. This year, **Ellen Gostling** was the inaugural recipient of the PHAJ Collections Undergraduate Scholarship, while **Jenna Soloman** and **Marnina Goldberg** received our new Jewish Studies Freshman & Sophomore Scholarship.



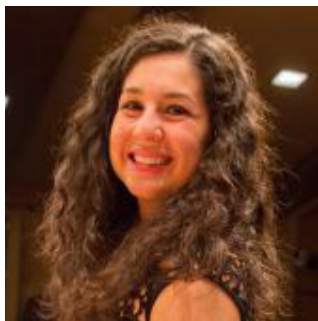
STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS

JACE ROSENTHAL

Jace Rosenthal is a triple Major in Jewish Studies, English, and Religious Studies. This past Spring, Jace was the Jewish Studies recipient of the Katherine Jacob Lamont tuition scholarship, as well as part of a student group awarded an ACE Jewish Arts Grant to write a new *21st Century Jewish Catalog*. Jace says, "Pursuing Jewish Studies at CU Boulder has enabled me to engage with topics across a range of disciplines, intersecting with my interests in literary, historical, and cultural methodologies. I feel privileged to be part of a [program] that uplifts its students, providing significant research and internship opportunities."

NATANIA BLOCH

Natania Bloch is pursuing Majors in Jewish Studies and History, Minors in Biochemistry and Communication, and a certificate in Pre-Health. She is the 2018 recipient of the Barry & Sue Baer Undergraduate Scholarship and the new Jewish Studies Adopt-A-Student Scholarship. This coming academic year, she will join the Jewish Studies Student Advisory Board. Natania says she is studying Jewish Studies to "recognize fully the history behind Jewish traditions and norms." She aspires to enter the medical field after graduation.



2018 VALEDICTORIAN: ELANA WEINER

We congratulate **Elana Weiner** for being selected as the Jewish Studies 2017-2018 valedictorian. Elana graduated this past May from CU with a Bachelor of Arts in Music – Piano Performance and a minor in Jewish Studies. During her time at CU, Elana was a member of the Jewish Studies Student Advisory Board and was involved in a number of other organizations. Elana recently accepted a position as an Educator and Advisor for Jewish Student Connection. She eventually plans to attend graduate school to continue her musical education and work with the international Jewish community.

"The Program in Jewish Studies has helped shape my world view and outlook on life. It created a small community in which I could thrive."

Watch Elana's valedictory speech online:
colorado.edu/jewishstudies/elana-speech

Community Talks

The Jewish Studies Community Talks Series features nationally and internationally renowned scholars, authors, artists, and performers for themed public events with the goal of enriching community learning and expanding access to academic programming on Jewish culture and history. This 2018-2019 academic year, Community Talks' new theme is "**Yiddishkvell: An Appreciation of All Things Yiddish.**" Come and enjoy free, public programming that revolves around Yiddish and features well-known poets, musicians, and experts on the subject.

Community Talks is made possible in part by a grant from Rose Community Foundation and donations from participants like you.



RUKHL SCHAECHTER

Photo by Esra Rottloff



DANIEL KAHN & THE
PAINTED BIRD
NOVEMBER 8, 2018

Daniel Kahn & the Painted Bird is a German-based klezmer band founded by Kahn in 2005. Described as "an absolute must for lovers of unusual, intelligent, challenging, exciting folk music and a blast at every instant," the band will perform a free concert featuring songs in Yiddish this Fall 2018 on the CU Boulder campus.



DAVID FISHMAN
HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE
JANUARY 24, 2019

In honor of International Holocaust Remembrance Day, we welcome David Fishman, Professor of Jewish History at the Jewish Theological Society, to present a talk on Yiddish-speaking Jewish communities during the Holocaust. Fishman is the author of numerous books and articles on the history and culture of East European Jewry.

Photo by Linda Eber



IRENA KLEPFISZ
BENDER VISITING SCHOLAR
FEBRUARY 21, 2019

Irena Klepfisz, a poet, Yiddishist, and professor of Jewish culture and women's studies, will serve as the 2019 Sondra & Howard Bender Visiting Scholar. Her public talk in February will explore Yiddish poetry and translation. Klepfisz, who teaches at Barnard College, is known for her work as an activist in feminist, lesbian, and secular Jewish communities.

BECOME A FRIEND OF THE COMMUNITY TALKS SERIES

The Jewish Studies Community Talks Series is made possible by the generous support of our community. By becoming a Friend of Jewish Studies Community Talks with a gift of any size, you help ensure that we can continue to offer premier academic programming, promote lifelong learning about Jewish culture and history, and fulfill the University's mandate to support community education through free and public events. All donations go directly to the Jewish Studies Community Programming Fund.

Become a Friend of Jewish Studies Community Talks today by sending a gift in the enclosed envelope or by visiting colorado.edu/jewishstudies/giving.

Thank you for being a friend of Community Talks!

Events Calendar

All events are free and open to the public. Learn more at colorado.edu/jewishstudies/events.

AUG

17-18 **Peak to Peak: Elias Sacks in Steamboat Springs**

Time TBA | Congregation Har Mishpacha

SEP

23 **Film Screening: *The Dybbuk* (1937)**

Part of CU's Leonard Bernstein 2018 programming

6:00 PM | Atlas 100, CU Boulder Campus

OCT

4 **Peak to Peak: Beverly Weber in Carbondale**

Time TBA | Carbondale Branch Library

11 **Community Talks: Lecture with Rukhl Schaechter, editor of *The Yiddish Forward***

7:00 PM | Old Main Theater, CU Boulder Campus

Rukhl Schaechter will give a Community Talk on the magazine *The Forward*, then and now.

25 **Colloquium with Sam Shonkoff, 2018 Jim & Diane Shneer Fellow in Post-Holocaust American Judaism**

11:30 AM | Location upon RSVP

NOV

8 **Community Talks: Concert with Daniel Kahn & the Painted Bird**

7:00 PM | Old Main Theater, CU Boulder Campus

JAN

24 **Community Talks: Annual Holocaust Lecture with scholar David Fishman**

7:00 PM | Old Main Theater, CU Boulder Campus

FEB

21 **Community Talks: Lecture with poet Irena Klepfisz, 2019 Bender Visiting Scholar**

7:00 PM | Old Main Theater, CU Boulder Campus

MAR

14 **Public Lecture with Kabbalah scholar Daniel Matt**

7:00 PM | Old Main Theater, CU Boulder campus

APR

Annual CU-DU Week of Jewish Philosophy with scholar Mara Benjamin

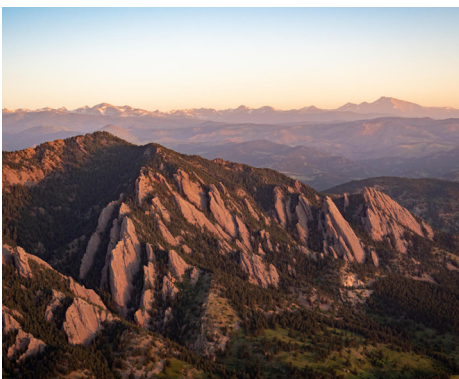
Dates, times and locations TBA

Times and locations subject to change.

For more information, please visit:

colorado.edu/jewishstudies/events

BEYOND BOULDER: PEAK TO PEAK SERIES



Refugees and Jewish philosophy take center stage in the 2018-2019 CU Boulder Peak to Peak Lecture series, a partnership between the Program in Jewish Studies and CU's Office for Outreach and Engagement. Peak to Peak sends Jewish Studies faculty to communities around Colorado to share innovative perspectives on historical figures, events, and enduring questions. Many of our faculty will hit the road this academic year. Elias Sacks will visit Steamboat Springs August 17-18, Beverly Weber will make a trip to Carbondale for a talk on October 4, and more lectures and locations will be announced throughout the year!

More information about the talks can be found on our website:

colorado.edu/jewishstudies/peak-peak



NEW FACULTY IN JEWISH STUDIES

HILARY KALISMAN

Hilary Falb Kalisman will join the CU Boulder faculty this academic year as an Associate Professor of History and Jewish Studies and the Jewish Studies Endowed Professor of Israel/Palestine Studies. Professor Kalisman graduated from Brown University with a BA in Middle Eastern Studies and received her MA and PhD from the University of California, Berkeley. Her research investigates education, political culture, state and nation-building in Israel/Palestine as well as in the Modern Middle East, and her teaching interests combine Jewish and Middle Eastern history. At CU Boulder, she will teach “Modern Childhood in Israel and Palestine,” “Introduction to Jewish History: Since 1492,” and the “Arab/Israeli Conflict,” among other courses.

REBECCA WARTELL

Rebecca Wartell joins us Fall 2018 as an Instructor in Jewish Studies. Professor Wartell’s research area is Sephardi Jews in the early modern period, with a focus on the rabbinic texts of Mediterranean Jewish communities. She explores Jewish/Christian and Jewish/Muslim historical interactions, with a particular interest in the Roman Inquisition of the sixteenth century. An experienced educator, Professor Wartell enjoys teaching courses in Jewish culture and history to students of all ages and backgrounds. She has a Master’s degree in Theological Studies from Harvard University and will receive her PhD in History in 2018 from Monash University in Melbourne, Australia. She is thrilled to be returning to her home state of Colorado, where she is a fourth-generation native.



Faculty Updates

The Program in Jewish Studies boasts award-winning, interdisciplinary faculty, who are leaders in scholarship, teaching, and student mentorship. This year, our faculty accomplished a considerable amount both in and out of the classroom.

Samuel Boyd received a CHA Faculty Fellowship for Spring 2019. He will be finishing his first book, *The Borrowed Bible*, and begin work on his second, tentatively titled *Babylon without Babble*. **Brian Catlos** received the prestigious 2018 Haskins Medal, awarded by the Medieval Academy of America, for his monograph *Muslims of Medieval Latin*

Christendom. **Nan Goodman** published a new book, *The Puritan Cosmopolis* (Oxford UP 2018), that provides an unexpected link between the Puritans, Jews, and Ottomans in the early modern world. **Yonatan Malin** participated in the inaugural *Archive Transformed* residency this past spring, together with renowned klezmer fiddler Alicia Svigals and pianist Uli Geissendoerfer. **Eyal Rivlin** performed music for diverse audiences at multiple festivals and Shavuot events in Denver and Boulder. He also served as the musical director for the Israeli American Council for Yom Hazikaron (Israel Memorial Day). **Elias Sacks** recently published essays in volumes on immortality and Judaism and on gender, Judaism, and aesthetics in the Enlightenment, and spoke at conferences in Portland and Princeton; he will also be speaking this summer at Jagiellonian University in Krakow, Poland. **David Shneer** gave a talk on Soviet photography in at the Wiener Library in London, taught at the Helix program in Los Angeles during, and is currently finishing his book manuscript, under contract with Oxford University Press, called *Grief: The Biography of a Holocaust Photograph*. **Davide Stimilli** received a CHA Faculty Fellowship for this Fall 2018 and will travel to Vienna, Austria in Spring 2019 on a Fulbright/IFK Senior Fellowship.



MEET PROFESSOR BEVERLY WEBER

Beverly Weber is an Associate Professor of German Studies and Jewish Studies at CU Boulder and is currently serving as the Director of Graduate Studies for Jewish Studies. Her primary research and teaching interests include the intersections of race, gender, and migration in Germany and Europe, comparative studies of racialization, contemporary German literature and culture, and Islam in Europe.

Professor Weber is currently working on two book projects. The first is an examination of racism and “welcome” culture in relationship to contemporary refugee migration to Germany and Europe. She is interested in how movements for welcome/hospitality generate possibilities for ethical cohabitation. Her second book, co-authored with Maria Stehle, considers how Western European films in the last few decades depict intimate relationships in the face of precarious conditions.

As the Director of Graduate Studies this past year, Professor Weber spearheaded the new Jewish Studies Graduate Certificate. In addition to leading the Jewish Studies interdisciplinary graduate student colloquium, in which graduate students workshop current projects and papers, Professor Weber mentors graduate students as they pursue the certificate and produce original research and creative works.

Professor Weber will be giving a talk on refugees October 4, 2018 at the Carbondale Branch Library as part of the CU Boulder Peak to Peak Series. She is teaching “Representing the Holocaust” Fall 2018.

Learn more about Professor Weber’s upcoming talk on our website: colorado.edu/jewishstudies/peak-peak



Alumni: Where Are They Now?

Jewish Studies alumni are passionate, driven leaders who are changing communities across the world – from Boston to Tel Aviv, Vancouver to Barcelona, New York to Denver. They are engineers, program directors, editors, marketing coordinators, graduate students, realtors, attorneys, teachers, soldiers, medical assistants, and the list goes on. Congratulations to all of our alumni on your amazing accomplishments!

ALUMNI HIGHLIGHT

JOSH UMLAND

Josh Umland graduated with a Major in Jewish Studies and served as the Jewish Studies 2012-2013 Valedictorian. Since graduating, he has moved to Lebanon, Oregon where he is entering his second year as a medical student at the College of Osteopathic Medicine of the Pacific at Western University. Josh’s trajectory shows that a degree in Jewish Studies can prepare students for any career path – even one in the medical field. “My Jewish Studies degree gave me a fantastic, well-rounded liberal arts education,” Josh says. “The critical thinking, deductive reasoning, and comprehensive reading skills that my degree gave me are abilities I use on a daily basis.”





Community Advisory Board

This past year, we established the Program in Jewish Studies Advisory Board. Comprised of strong supporters of Jewish Studies, the mission of the board is to help the Program obtain resources for maintenance and growth; enhance the Program's reputation within CU and beyond; and help the Program facilitate community engagement and development within Colorado. We are grateful for the board's dedicated work to expand the reach of Jewish Studies on campus and in the wider community. Thank you for all you do.

Jack Zable, *Chair*
Barry Baer
Howard Bernstein

Larry Cohn
Alan Greenberg
Julie Schafer

Tom Trager
Nan Goodman, *Director of PJS*
Michelle Gaffga, *Advancement*

Your Gift Makes a Difference

Donors bring small programs like Jewish Studies to life! Because of donors like you, we are able to provide CU students with the critical thinking and communication skills they need to navigate a diverse world and become leaders in their communities. Your gifts also help Jewish Studies foster community education, support faculty research, and cultivate archival resources. Thanks to the generosity of the Bender Foundation, which supports Jewish learning and educational programs at all levels, we have been awarded a five-year matching grant that will **match dollar-to-dollar** your gift to the Program in Jewish Studies up to \$50,000. **Thank you for your commitment to expanding the boundaries of academic learning.**

Please support Jewish Studies by making a donation through the enclosed envelope or online at:
colorado.edu/jewishstudies/giving

CONNECT WITH US!

Find us at colorado.edu/jewishstudies, email us at CUJewishStudies@colorado.edu, or follow us on social media.

