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Exhibits

- Jacob Landau
- Hanukkiyot From The Diaspora
- From There To Here
(Children's Immigrant Posters)
- Children's Menorahs

For more information

phone: 732-252-6990
website: www.JHMOMC.org
email: info@jhmomc.org

Mailing address:

Jewish Heritage Museum
of Monmouth County
P.O. Box 7078
Freehold, NJ 07728

Message from the President

The leaves of autumn 2008 have finally had their brush with destiny and each day that JHMOMC opens its doors to the public as a working museum, we continue to fulfill our own. The many challenges of developing exhibits, directing special programs and projects, properly staffing the museum, raising funds in a challenging economic environment, etc., keep us all on our toes.

The last four months have seen important successes for JHMOMC. Our recent dramatic presentation of Mark Harelik's, *The Immigrant*, is a prime example of how working together to achieve great things can deliver an outcome much beyond expectations. I was privileged to be present at every performance of *The Immigrant* and I was moved by the positive response of the public to the first theatrical production in our newly minted performance space.

We could not have realized this great success without the tireless efforts of a dedicated group of people that included: director David

Sorin and his talented cast of actors; set designer, Nelson Kuperberg; stage manager, Pat Seligman; Elaine Ruda on costumes; Georgine Eberight, Loretta Rosen, and Marjorie Kalman-Kutz running the box office; and our volunteer house crew. They cannot receive enough accolades or rave reviews. Gloria Berman, programming co-chair, became the production's Yiddish language coach and doubled up with Elaine Ruda to serve refreshments during our intermissions.

To all those who came to a performance, ushered, or just passed the word to a friend that the theatrical production at the JHMOMC Hayloft performance space just had to be seen, take a bow, you've earned it!

We are already working on future productions to keep the momentum going. Our success comes from the continued support of our membership, our board of trustees, and our neighbors. Please continue to support our upcoming programs. Visit the museum, look at the exhibits, and don't forget to check out our new web site (www.JHMOMC.org), beautifully redesigned by Gil Newman for upcoming events.

Finally, Happy Chanukah and best wishes for a happy, healthy and safe **Holiday Season**. We look forward to seeing you all at your museum's events and exhibits in 2009.

— Michael Berman
President, JHMOMC



The production crew for *The Immigrant*: Left to right --Elaine Ruda, Costumes, Fred Whitton, Lighting; David Sorin, Director, Nelson Kuperberg, Set design, Tom Alexander, Technical.

Photograph by Allan Goldberg

**A JHMOMC Special Program
Sunday, December 28th, 1-3 PM***

Alan Wasserman and Friends in an Afternoon of Jewish Composers, Compositions and Folk Songs

Alan Wasserman is a musician with an eclectic background. An accomplished pianist, teacher, and composer, his main focus has been on classical piano, yet he is also well versed in genres of jazz piano, folk, new age, and meditational music. In addition, he has long maintained an interest in working with young musicians. As President of the historic Cecilian Music Club of Freehold, NJ, he participated in the 2004 Shanghai International Children's Cultural Arts Festival in China. One highlight was a "Monster Concert" for 100 pianos featuring 40 American and 60 Chinese students. In the 2007 festival he returned with a troupe of young piano and orchestral instrument performers.



Mr. Wasserman is a past President of the Music Educators Association of New Jersey. His Guided Listening Series CDs showcase his unique style of audience engagement and he is as comfortable lecturing at Steinway Hall in New York as he is when entertaining at Health Spas. He enjoys enthusiastic responses to his programs from people of all ages.

Alan and friends will present a mix of classical music from Mendelssohn to Offenbach, tunes from the Yiddish theatre, and American classics by Copland and Bernstein. The great American songbook will be represented by such musical masters as Gershwin, Rogers and Hammerstein, Irving Berlin and Stephen Sondheim, and modern pop icons Simon and Garfunkel. Classic Jewish folk tunes will also be part of the program.

The melodies that have shaped America's musical signature have been influenced, formed, and defined by many Jewish composers and compositions. Come join us and enjoy an afternoon of harmony and pure melodic delight.

The concert will be followed by a "meet and greet" with the artists. Light refreshments will be served courtesy of the Jewish Heritage Museum.

* Call 732-252-6990 for reservations. Fee: JHMOMC members \$12, Non-members \$15, Children 12 and under \$ 5.

Museum's First Theatrical Performance, *The Immigrant*, A Huge Success

Theatre made its debut at the Hayloft Performance Stage November 8, 2008 as JHMOMC presented *The Immigrant*, a play by Mark Harelik.

The play depicts the true account of the arrival of the playwright's grandfather in small-town Texas from a pogrom-plagued shtetl in Russia. His adjustment and assimilation into American life and his friendship with the gentile couple who took him under their wing was chronicled as the play unfolded. Haskel Harelik's journey was sensitively portrayed by Matt Venuto, while Elizabeth Mahon, in the role of Haskel's wife Leah, transformed her character from a frightened, just-off-the-boat, young bride into a confident young wife and mother who learned how to combine her Jewish heritage with her new American surroundings. Bernadette Gill and Jack Welsh, as Ima and Milton Perry, brought to life the gentile couple who befriended the immigrants while discovering truths about themselves and their own religious beliefs.

An added attraction to the show was the use of actual slides of the Harelik family from the playwright's personal heirlooms.

Under the direction of David Sorin, founder of Freehold's Center Players, and now head of Spiritus Entertainment, an enormously talented cast transported the audience to



In a moving Sabbath dinner scene from *The Immigrant*, the growing specter of Nazism in Europe and the foreboding hints of war and the Holocaust that lie ahead fuel fiery discourse that shreds the three-decade friendship between the Harelicks (right) and the Perrys.
Photograph by Allan Goldberg

another place and time in Jewish American history. Set designs by Nelson Kuperberg, president of Nelson & Company, a New York based design firm, and the well-executed costumes by Elaine Ruda (Secretary of the Jewish Heritage Museum) evoked a sense of turn-of-the-20th-century Middle America. In addition, JHMOMC board member Gloria Berman's skillful Yiddish language coaching of key performers added to the realism of the dialogue.

The wonderful cast earned accolades from the audience which led to successively sold out performances at the Museum over the six-performance run. More than 530 guests visited the JHMOMC to see this production of *The Immigrant*. Guests enjoyed complimentary refreshments that were served during the intermissions. Now, those who attended are anxiously awaiting word of the next show to come to the Hayloft Performance Stage.

— Georgine Eberight and Loretta Rosen

JHMOMC's First Film Program Dec. 25th

The 2006, award-winning, Israeli movie, *Live and Become* (with English subtitles) will be featured at the JHMOMC's inaugural film showing, Thursday afternoon December 25th.

The film tells the affecting story of Shlomo, a refugee Christian Ethiopian boy placed by his mother, in sheer desperation, with an Ethiopian Jewish woman about to be airlifted from Sudan to Israel during Operation Moses in 1984. His birth mother's charge to her nine-year son as he boards the plane is, "go, live, and become."

The film traces Shlomo's life as, posing as a Falashian (Ethiopian) Jew, he is adopted by a secular Israeli family, overcomes racial prejudice and the agony of exile, and, growing up, finds love and a place for himself on three continents. It is an inspiring tale of a man's search for religious identity and an ethical life.

Recommended for adults and children 12 years and up, the 2 hour, 20 minute film will start at 1:00 p.m. There is a \$7.00 fee for non-members, \$5.00 for members. Prior registration requested (732-252-6990).

Jacob Landau Exhibit Reception



Dr. David Herrstrom, president of the Jacob Landau Institute, elaborates on details of the artist's Holocaust Suite at the Jewish Heritage Museum's gala reception for JHMOMC's premiere exhibit, "Jacob Landau: Humanist and Visionary." Photograph by Allan Goldberg

On Sunday, September 14, 2008, the Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County hosted a gala opening reception for its first major exhibit—"Jacob Landau: Humanist and Visionary." Held at the Museum's Levi Solomon barn location in Freehold, the event was attended by more than 160 guests. The highly successful fund-raiser chaired by Dr. Joel Stern featured a program that included insightful commentary on the artist's work by Dr. David Herrstrom, president of the Landau Institute, and a wonderful musical presentation by David Brahinsky and Friends, Roosevelt, NJ.

Funding has come through gracious catalog sponsorship by members of the community and a generous grant by The Bank (thebankonline.com).

JHMOC's exhibit of 23 works of prominent Roosevelt, NJ artist, the late Jacob Landau, including seven lithographs in his *Holocaust Suite*,

was made possible through the collaborative efforts of the Jewish Heritage Museum and the Jacob Landau Institute. Curator for the exhibit is Rosa Giletti. Landau's work is included in the permanent collections of the National Gallery of Art in Washington, DC, the Museum of Modern Art, New York, the Philadelphia Museum and many other eminent museums.

JHMOC's exhibit of the art of Jacob Landau has been very well received and has now been extended through December 30, 2008.

Members of the Gala committee included, Susan Winter, Mildred Lautman, Gloria Berman, and Beverly Stern. Assisting at the event were Gary, Helene, and Josh Cohen, Dr. Robert Winter, Cheryl Ingeman, Barry Kaplan, and Ellen Rockmaker. Michael Berman, president of the JHMOMC was ex-officio and his assistance was invaluable.

— Joel Stern

**Jewish Heritage Museum
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310 Mounts Corner Drive
P.O. Box 7078
Freehold, N.J. 07728
Museum Phone: 732-252-6990
website: www.jhmomc.org
e-mail: info@jhmomc.org

President - Michael Berman
michaelberman@jhmomc.org
Director - Jean Klerman
jeanklerman@jhmomc.org

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Heritage Highlights Staff

Editor: Sid Marshall
sidmarshall@optonline.net
Design Editor: Jeff Wolf,
Creative Director: Diane Jarrett

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People, Places and Things – Stories of Monmouth’s Jewish History

The Zuckermans of Monmouth County in the Early Twentieth Century

Isaac and Haschka (Hannah) Zuckerman emigrated from Russia to Monmouth County towards the end of the 19th century. Haschka was one of nine siblings who settled in New Jersey and New York. Her husband, Isaac, opened a small business on the corner of Broadway and Fifth Avenue in Long Branch. Isaac and Haschka raised three children—Fanny, George, and Harry—in Long Branch and encouraged all of them to study beyond high school. The Zuckerman family worshiped at the orthodox synagogue in Long Branch.

Fanny was born in 1899, probably in the U.S., and died in 1988. She was a graduate of the New Jersey State Teachers College in Trenton and in 1926 was licensed to teach elementary school in New Jersey. Up until her retirement in 1958 at age 59, Fanny taught third grade at the Gregory School in Long Branch. Fanny loved her work and her students loved her. Colleagues and former students often said that she “could teach a dog to read.” Fanny lived her whole life in Long Branch and never married. After her retirement, her good health enabled her to travel extensively. Fanny continued to pay dues to the orthodox synagogue her parents belonged to, but she also joined a reformed temple and left a bequest to both institutions in her will.



Fanny Zuckerman

Fanny’s brother, George (1901-1975), was the publicity director in Asbury Park for 24 years. He moved to Asbury from Long Branch after he married the local kosher butcher’s daughter. They had no

children. As publicity director, George brought innovative events and programs to Asbury Park. For example, in 1935 he originated, and for many years, coordinated the Easter Sunday fashion contest on the boardwalk as well as the Baby Parade. George was also politically active. After retiring in 1963, he founded the New Jersey Conference of Mayors and was its executive director for many years. He also served the National Council of Christians and Jews at both the county and state levels.



George Zuckerman circa 1908

Harry Zuckerman died in his late 40’s of a heart attack. His wife was a nurse who died young, before him. They had no children and he did not remarry. Harry was a detective with the County Prosecutor’s Office in Freehold.

I’m grateful to Mildred Zuckerman Cohen of Holmdel for talking to me about her family and donating to the Jewish Heritage Museum several artifacts and newspaper clippings about them. It is always informative and a pleasure to learn about a Jewish family who provided so much service within the Jewish tradition to the growing diversity of Monmouth County.

— Caryl Sills
JHMOMC History Committee Chair

January Movie at the Museum —A Compelling Follow Up to *The Immigrant*

West of Hester Street is a must-see film that powerfully complements JHMOMC’s recent presentation of *The Immigrant*. To be shown January 25th, the film, narrated by the late Sam Jaffe, heartwarmingly interweaves Galveston Movement events with the story of a different Jewish peddler’s journey from Russia to Texas. The Galveston Movement routed 10,000 Eastern European Jews through the Texas port into the labor-needy industrialized West between 1907 and 1914. There is a \$7.00 fee for non-members, \$5.00 for members. Prior registration requested (732-252-6990).

October Resnick Program in Celebration Of Israel's 60th Anniversary Well Received

More than 90 guests gathered at the Museum on Sunday afternoon, October 19th for the JHMOMC's second presentation of, "The Exciting Story of Zimel Resnick and the Establishment of the State of Israel." Members of Zimel

Resnick's family spoke of his exploits and recounted their memories of this unique and extraordinary man. The program, with slide presentation, was written



and coordinated by Beverly Stern. The original Resnick program was held at the Ruth Hyman JCC in Deal last April, and was co-sponsored by the Jewish Community Center of Monmouth County. It was enjoyed by approximately 150 luncheon guests. Jules Resnick and Phyllis Resnick Getzler were among the family members participating in the first program.

Presenters L to R, rear: Dr. Joel Stern, Beverly Stern, Amy Stern, David Rosenblatt; seated: Pearl Kessler, Karen Slobodin.

Hanukkiyot of the Diaspora— A Winter Exhibit of Hanukkah Lamps

Approximately 40 menorahs and other types of 19th and 20th century Hanukkiyot (Hanukkah lamps) from the private collection of Aharon Ben Zalman will be on display at the JHMOMC from December 21st through February 26th. Fashioned from a variety of materials—bronze, silver, brass, wood, and ceramic—they originate from various countries of the Diaspora (communities of Jews outside of Israel). Included are candle and oil burning lamps from Cyprus, England, Germany, Holland, India, Italy, Morocco, Philippines, Poland, and the United States.



Although the lamps reflect the art and style, and even the political and cultural figures of the various civilizations in which the Jews lived, such reappearing symbols as the Star of David and the Lions of Judah attest to the persistence and appeal of traditional Jewish motifs.

Visitors may view the exhibit free of charge during regular Museum hours. There will be an opening reception for the Hanukkiyot exhibit on Sunday, December 21st, at 1:00 pm.

“From There to Here” Posters Reflect Efforts of JHMOMC's Education Committee

In conjunction with its presentation of the play, *The Immigrant*, the Jewish Heritage Museum of Monmouth County sponsored a poster project for middle-school-age children titled, "From There to Here: The Story of My Family's Journey to America and to Monmouth County." Students were asked to include on their posters a family tree or timeline, and photos, where available, of their family's first generation immigrants. As an incentive for poster submissions, the JHMOMC offered tickets for *The Immigrant* and even made poster supplies available. Submitted posters will be on display at the Museum through early February.

Continued engagement of young people is a goal of the Education Committee. Earlier in the year, with the participation of Board member, Rabbi Sally Priesand, the Museum sponsored a contest to create mezuzah cases.

Six-year old Ethan Lipper of Manalapan was the winner, and the workmanship of all the young participants has been on display at the Museum for the past few months.

In time for Hanukkah, another early December youth activity is aimed at allowing young participants to create their own menorahs at the Around the Corner Arts Center adjacent to the Museum's Levi Solomon barn location. A selection of the finished menorahs will be on exhibit at the museum through the next few months.

Heritage Highlights

Calendar of Events Winter 2008-2009

- * **December 7** (Sunday) 11:00 am.-1:00 pm - **Children's Hanukkah Menorah Craft**
"Create Your Own Hanukkah Menorah" at the Around The Corner Art Center which is located in the white Colonial farm house next to the Museum. An \$18 fee per child is required to cover the cost of paint and other materials. Please register by calling Cheryl Ingeman, the HMOMC's Education Coordinator at 732-610-2876.
 - * **December 25** (Thursday) 1:00 – 3:30 pm.- "**Live and Become**" An Israeli Film for adults and children ages 12 and up - \$7 fee (\$5 for members)
 - * **December 28** (Sunday) 1:00 – 3:00 pm. "**Alan Wasserman & Friends**" An afternoon of Jewish composition and song - \$15 fee (\$12 for members)
 - * **January 11 (Snow date Jan. 18th) "Swing Band Concert & Tea Dance"**
Location: Newly renovated ballroom at Freehold Jewish Center, 59 Broad St., Freehold, NJ
(For information about ticket prices, please call the museum.)
 - * **January 25** (Sunday) 1:00 – 3:00 pm.- "**West of Hester Street**" A fascinating film follow-up to "The Immigrant" documenting the Jewish immigration route through Galveston, Texas. - for adults and children ages 10 and up - \$7 fee (\$5 for members)
- February 8** (Sunday) 2:00 pm "**Planting In Winter**" A Tu B'Shevat concert for adults and families. Presented by children of Monmouth County

*** Prior registration is requested. Phone 732-252-6990**

Exhibits

Jacob Landau: Humanist and Visionary

(extended through December 30, 2008)

From There To Here

Children's Immigration Posters
(through February 2009)

Children's Hanukkah Menorah Exhibit

(through February 2009)

Hanukkiyot From The Diaspora

From the collection of Aharon Ben Zalman
(December 21st through February 2009)

HOURS

The Jewish Heritage Museum is open to the public free of charge.

Sundays 11:00 am - 3:00 pm

Tuesdays and Thursdays 10:00 am – 3:00 pm

Please note the following early closings for special programs and holidays:

Thursday, December 25 – closed at 1:00 pm for film showing of *Live and Become*

Sunday, December 28 – closed at noon for program, **Alan Wasserman & Friends**

Thursday, January 1 – closed all day – **New Year's Day**

Sunday, February 8 – closed at 1:00 pm for concert, *Planting in Winter*

Jewish Heritage Museum Of
Monmouth County,
P.O. Box 7078,
Freehold, NJ 07728

Celebrating Preserving Exploring illustrating



Jewish Heritage Museum

the rich and
unique history
of the Jewish residents
of Monmouth County

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P.O. Box 7078, Freehold, NJ 07728

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<input type="checkbox"/> Student	\$15	<input type="checkbox"/> Founder	\$1000

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Please contact me by mail, telephone, e-mail