

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES
44TH ANNUAL CONVENTION, JULY 5 – 8, 2009, CHICAGO, IL
CONFERENCE SCHEDULE (AS OF May 28, 2009)

Sunday, July 5

9:00 am **AJL Board Meeting** (breakfast)

10:00 am **Registration** begins

12:00 pm – 3:00 pm **AJL Council Meeting** (lunch)

2:00 pm – 5:00 pm **Tour** : Jewish Chicago

2:00 pm – 3:30 pm **Tour** : Chicago Architectural Boat Tour

3:00 – 5:30 **Cataloging Committee meeting**

3:30 pm – 5:00 pm **CEU Part 1 Digital Judaic Resources -- Michael Kay** This course will identify digital Judaic studies resources such as the Bar Ilan Responsa Project and the Center for Online Judaic Studies. How can these resources be searched? How can we incorporate the use of these resources in the classroom, and among our patrons? What resources are “cost effective?” Do digital Judaic resources replace the Jewish book? What new digital resources can we expect to see in the future?

4:00 pm **Newcomers (First-Timers)**

4:00 pm **Judaica Librarianship Editorial Board**

5:00 pm **Mentoring**

5:00 pm **Digitization Committee**

6:30 pm **Dinner --Keynote Speaker: Dr. Peter Hayes**
“The Holocaust: Myths and Misconceptions”

9:00 pm **Committee Meetings:**

Accreditation
Chapter Relations
Sydney Taylor Book Awards
Professional Development
Sydney Taylor Ms. Awards

Monday, July 6

6:00 am **Early Morning Walk**

6:45 am **Minyanim**

7:00 am – 8:30 am **Breakfast**

(RAS Bibliography Award Committee meets)

8:30 am – 10:00 am Session I

I.1 Active Learning – Maureen Reister. Librarians are always looking for effective ways to reach students, incorporate technology, increase student learning, and find new strategies to captivate students during library instruction classes, especially when we may only have them together in a class once a week, or, in some cases, only a few times each year. The lecture format alone doesn't work, but “Active Learning” does! This workshop will present hands-on Active Learning library instruction lessons that can be adapted to any grade level, in any time frame, and for any learning style

I.2 Good Reads: What's New in Adult Jewish Literature – Nancy Rivin and Michlean Amir

A Few Good Books: In the last several years, the world of Jewish literature has flourished with the publication of many novels, short stories and highly readable non-fiction. In this session we will survey the field, looking at books by both established authors and interesting new writers. From the off-beat to the mainstream, learn where to best use your budget dollars to ensure happy reading for your patrons.

A Few Good Books in Translation: recently published works translated from Hebrew - old classics and selected new reads.: A selected number of books in translation available in the last few years will be discussed. Among them will be some books from the Hebrew canon never before available in English, and others that had been out of print for a long time. Also, several books from a new 'crop' of Israeli fiction will be introduced.

I.3 Digitization and Access – Digitization and Access: panel discussion. **Joy Kingsolver, Shuli Berger, Ellen Kastel**

I.4 Jewish Linguistics – New tools for Jewish Linguistics by Heidi Lerner; Freedom of Speech: Assimilating Slang, Jargon and Other Languages into Current Israeli Hebrew by Yaffa Weisman.

I.5 CEU Part 2 Digital Judaic Resources --Michael Kay (See description above)

10:00 am -10:30 am Coffee Break

10:30 am – 12:00 pm Session II

II.1 *Writing the Jewish Children's Book* --Esme Codell, Ilene Cooper, Brenda Ferber and Esther Hershenhorn How does a children's book writer come to write a *Jewish* children's book? Chicago children's book writers Esme Codell, Ilene Cooper, Brenda Ferber and Esther Hershenhorn answer that very question, sharing how their mind-sets, heart-sets, experiences and backgrounds helped them create their respective award-winning books, Sydney Taylor Book Award Honor Book *VIVE LA PARIS*, National Jewish Book Award winner *JEWISH HOLIDAYS ALL YEAR 'ROUND*, and Sydney Taylor Book Award winners *JULIA'S KITCHEN* and *CHICKEN SOUP BY HEART*.

II. 2 *Relate-Collaborate: Developing Relationships to Enhance Collaboration* -- Deborah Lazar and Pam Strom How do librarians enhance the level of collaboration with classroom teachers? Deborah and Pam believe the core of collaboration is the development of relationships. They will talk about the theory and practice of collaboration and offer suggestions on how to develop relationships with the teachers in your building. They will also share examples of successful collaborative projects in which they and other New Trier High School librarians have partnered (including the incorporation of Web 2.0 tools across the curriculum). Attendees will have the opportunity to share and participate in activities that will lay the groundwork for future collaborative work.

II. 3 *The National Library of Israel* – “The National Library of Israel: Defining and Implementing the Vision” by Carl Posy [read by Elhanan Adler]; “The National Digital Library of Israel: From Boutique to Mass Production” by Elhanan Adler; “The National Library of Israel enters WorldCat” by Marina Goldsmith;

II.4 *Sephardic Folklore* – Personal Narratives and Oral tradition and Folklore by Beatrice Gomez

II. 5 *CEU Part 3 Digital Judaic Resources* --Michael Kay (see description above)

12:00 – 1:15 pm Awards Luncheon

1:30 pm – 2:45 pm Session III

III.1 *Teaching the Holocaust Through Picture Books* – Lisa Silverman
Followers of children's literature have recently witnessed an unusual amount of illustrated books about the Holocaust being published. Along with the many narratives and memoirs for older readers, there is a large subgroup of supposedly simple picture books that are being offered to a

younger crowd. After taking a look at almost everything about the Holocaust published in picture book format, one could come to the conclusion that children these days are seemingly prepared to absorb much of the horrors of 20th century history at a tender age. Clearly this subject cannot be hidden from children who hear references to it often, but perhaps the bibliography I have prepared will be of some assistance to teachers, librarians and booksellers who are at a loss as to which of these picture books are most appropriate for various age groups. For Grades 4 – High School.

III. 2 *Bat Mitzvah & Beyond: Jewish Girls Coming of Age in Fiction*, by June Cummins and Simone Elkeles. Judaism has a built-in mechanism for coming-of-age, but are there ways that contemporary books for middle school and high school readers deal with Jewish girls' development in addition to or beyond the Bat Mitzvah ceremony? How has the Bat Mitzvah been positively and negatively portrayed in recent books? What are the pressures that Jewish tweens, teens, and young women face and how does the current body of literature address or contribute to the conflicting messages about beauty, body image, and self-esteem that are prevalent in our society?

III. 3 *Israeli Film Mosaic* – Laurie Herman. A decade-by decade exploration of the evolution of Israeli film. Participants will view select clips of Israeli films from the 1950's to today. Brief background information will be given for each decade, as well as an introduction to each film clip. Two filmographies will also be distributed - one providing summaries of feature length Israeli films (organized decade-by-decade), and one providing summaries of many available short Israeli films.

III. 4 *The Dark Side of the Web: Terror on the Internet*-- Dr. Gabriel Weimann How terrorists use the Internet to carry out their deadly plans on a daily basis and threats posed to our civil liberties by government efforts to constrain cyberterror.

III. 5 *Jewish Book Stores* – The end of an Era: Beinkinstadt, Cape Town's Oldest Jewish Bookstore Closes Down by Veronica Belling; Jewish Libraries and Jewish Bookstores: Friends or Strangers? by Henry Hollander

2:45 pm – 3:15 pm Coffee Break

3:15 pm – 5:00 pm Session IV

IV. 1 *School K – 8 Roundtable* -- moderated by Marsha Lustigman, and *High School Roundtable* – moderated by Maureen Reister

IV. 2 *Freshman Seminar* – Fred Isaac, Etta Gold, Sherry Wasserman. Budgeting, Acquisitions and Collection Development.

IV. 3 **Synagogues and Centers Roundtable** – moderated by Eileen Polk

IV. 4 **Sephardic Music** - "Baghdad to Bombay - Gems of Mizrahi Liturgy" by Pearl Sofaer. "Folk Songs of the Cochin Jews" by Barbara Johnson

IV. 5 **Manuscripts and Archival Collections** - Papers of Eisig Silberschlag, at Stanford University by Anna Levia; Sondheim Jewish Heritage Collection at the University of Chicago by Alice Schreyer, Conservation of the Collections in the Ets Haim Library and Restoration of over 1500 Items by Abraham Rosenberg;

5:15 – 6:15 pm Special Plenary Session

Barbara Schneider-Kempf, the Director General of the Berlin State Library in Germany, speaking on: "Stolen books: The Third Reich's Exchange Center and the Prussian State Library in the years 1933 till 1945. Aspects of the supply with literature under the control of National Socialism"

6:15 – 7:00 pm -- Reception

MONDAY NIGHT --

7:00 pm **Avi-Chai Bookshelf Dinner** –Speaker: Dr. Steven Steinberg

8:30 pm – 10:00 pm – Movie -- **Blessed is the Match**

9:30 pm – 11:00 pm **Committee Meetings**

Chapter Relations

Cataloging Committee

Weine Cataloging Revision Committee

TUESDAY, July 7

6:00 am Early Morning Walk

7:00 am **Minyanim**

7:00 am – 8:30 am **Breakfast**

8:30 am – 10:00 am Session V

V. 1 **Adventures in Book Reviewing: The Sydney Taylor Book Award Committee Tells All, Part 1**

V 2 **LC Cataloging Update** -- Representatives from the Library of Congress' newly established Israel and Judaica Section will discuss developments in cataloging during the past year and will address cataloging questions submitted in advance by AJL members -- **Lenore Bell, Joan Biella, Aaron Taub**

V 3 **Yiddish Theater** -- Mahler, Copland, Bernstein ... and Rumshinsky? Reflections on the Yiddish Theater and its Legacy by **Zachary Baker**, Yiddish Theater in South Africa, by **Veronica Belling**, Penetrating Cultures: A Yiddish Theatre Aesthetic and Its Influence on American Theatre and Performance, by **David Y. Chack**

V.4. **Jewish Music – Jewish Ethnomusicology**, by **Mark Kligman**; Joachim Stutschewsky (1891-1982): Works for Cello and Piano in the Jewish Style by **Racheli Galay-Altman**.

10:00 am – 10:30am Coffee Break

10:30 am – 12:00 pm Session VI

VI. 1 **Adventures in Book Reviewing: The Sydney Taylor Book Award Committee Tells All, Part 2**

VI. 2 **Standards for Information Literacy: Mission and Vision** – **Debbie Feder and Sara Ravid** This workshop is designed to enhance understanding of the importance of having information literacy standards and mission statements. In the twenty-first century, it is critical that our students get instruction in information literacy and to guide that curriculum we must have goals and standards. We will examine some existing standards and discuss as a group the unique goals that an AJL library might have for its students. Also members will have a chance to start to formulate their own set of standards for their library.

VI 3 **Jewish Chicago Moguls and Mobsters** – "My Grandfather, Julius Rosenwald, the Man who built Sears Roebuck" by **Dr. Peter Ascoli**; "Chicago's Prominent Jewish Gangsters and their Role in Organized Crime" by **John Binder**

VI. 4 **Copyright & Scholarly Communication** - Copyright issues and how they affect librarians by **Aric Jacover**; Overview of Scholarly Communication by **Mariann Burrett**

12:00 – 1:15 Author's Luncheon

1:15 pm – 2:30 pm Author Book Signings & Visiting Exhibits, including coffee +

2:30 – 3:45 pm Session VII

VII. 1 **Automation Vendors Panel** –invited speakers include representatives from **Follett Software, ResourceMate, and OPALS.**

VII. 2 **Writing Books About Israel for Younger Readers** – **Anna Levine.** Anna will be talking about the challenges of writing about Israel, how she uses her personal experiences in her books, and how to teach readers about Israel without being didactic.

VII. 3 **Social media--How I learned about Amazing Jewish Books through Social Media** – **Mark Blevis.** This session will highlight ways in which Jewish children's books and their authors and illustrators are being promoted using the Internet, and how communities of people are engaging in the conversation about Jewish literature. It will demystify social media and identify ways in which real people, particularly the Digital Natives (people that have grown up not knowing a time before the Internet) are talking, sharing and making a difference for Judaica using the Internet

VII. 4 **Jewish Art** - "A Gift to Biro-Bidjan, Chicago, 1937: From Despair to New Hope" by **Nathan Harpaz**; Jewish Book Arts at the Jaffe Center for Book Arts, Florida Atlantic University by **Daniel Scheide**; Lessons from the 10-year Look Up: Reclaiming the Forgotten Artist by **Lisa Thaler**

VII. 5 **RDA: Resources Description and Access** – A New Cataloging Standard for the Digital Future-- **John Attig**

4:00 pm – 5:15 pm Session VIII

VIII. 1 **Storytelling in Jewish Libraries: Share the Meises** -- **Susan Stone** Once upon a time there were librarians who could really make Jewish stories come alive for the *yeladim* (children) in their libraries; they could “lift the story off the page”. They could read books as well as tell stories with skill, passion and joy, making children want to read and learn MORE. If you want to make this story have a happyending, come to this workshop and have some FUN.

VIII. 2 **Fundraising and PR** - How to Promote your Library by **Peggy Barber and Judy Hoffman** From Wish List to Reality: Preparation for Library Fundraising by **Barbara Kemmis and Lorraine H. Olley,**

VIII. 3 **Yiddish Language Publishing** - "Groshn-bibliotek" ("Penny Library"), Series of Popular Biographies Published in Yiddish in Warsaw, 1930-1935" by **Lyudmila Sholokhova**; Yiddish Publishing in Argentina by **Rita Saccal**

VIII. 4 **Electronic Resources** - "C.O.T.A.R. Collection of Torah Articles: The Evolution of a database and its uses by **Yaakov Aronson**; Creating a Bibliography and Catalog of all Hebrew Writings for the Future National Library of Israel by **Donald Goldman**; IIT Voices of the Holocaust Project by **Christopher Stewart**

5:30 pm – 6:30 pm Feinstein Lecture – **Michael Grunberger**

7:00 pm – Banquet and Awards

Wednesday, July 8

6:00 am Early Morning Walk

7:00 am – **Minyanim**

7:00 pm – 8:30 pm **Breakfast**

8:15 am -- **OCLC Users meeting**

9:30 am – 10:15 am – **Division Meetings**

10:30 am – 12:00 -- **Annual Meeting**

1:00 pm **Convention Committee Wrap-up Meeting**

2:00 pm **Architectural Boat Tours**