



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Contact:

Haim A. Gottschalk

Chair, AJL Librarianship and Education Committee

hgot@loc.gov

The Association of Jewish Libraries Launches *AJL Classroom*

The Association of Jewish Libraries (AJL) is pleased to announce *AJL Classroom*, providing librarianship training with a focus on Judaic and Hebraic content. As the leading authority on Judaic librarianship, AJL is committed to providing professional development and educational opportunities to its members and the public, serving all types of libraries, including academic, archival, research, school, center, public, and synagogue libraries. *AJL Classroom* will develop and offer specialized courses (both online and in person) on a variety of topics.

For its inaugural program in August, *AJL Classroom* presents *Storytelling*, a two-part course taught by Christina Jones and intended for librarians working with children. The class will meet via Zoom on Wednesdays, August 11 and 18, 1:00–3:00 pm EDT. Cost for the course is \$75 for AJL members and \$150 for nonmembers. Credit is not offered for this class. Register at www.jewishlibraries.org/education.

Participants will explore learning and telling stories using a combination of big ideas and imagery. Through interactive demonstrations and breakout sessions, participants will practice shaping a story based on a big idea, learn how to select stories for a particular audience or age group, and discover how to structure a story program using a variety of elements, including read-alouds, storytelling, music, and rhymes.

Christina Jones is an education subject specialist librarian and head of the Education Library at the School of Education at Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana; previously, Christina was the children's librarian at the Monroe County Public Library, also in Bloomington. She uses storytelling in her work and teaches two semester-long storytelling courses to MLS and MAEd students at the School of Informatics, Computing and Engineering at Indiana University.

"I'm happy to share *AJL Classroom* with our members and the public," said Haim Gottschalk, chair of the AJL Librarianship and Education Committee. "Our inaugural course will approach

storytelling through a Judaic lens and, with Christina as our guide, provide tools and tips for engaging with audiences of different ages.”

About the Association of Jewish Libraries

The Association of Jewish Libraries is an international, professional organization that fosters access to information and research in all forms of media relating to all things Jewish. The Association promotes Jewish literacy and scholarship and provides a community for peer support and professional development. For more information, visit www.jewishlibraries.org.

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