

2016 Sydney Taylor Book Awards Announcement

Submitted by Diane Rauchwerger, January 14, 2016



Lesléa Newman and Amy June Bates, author and illustrator of *Ketzel, the Cat who Composed*, Aharon Appelfeld, Philippe Dumas and Jeffrey M. Green, author, illustrator and translator of *Adam and Thomas*, and Laura Amy Schlitz, author of *The Hired Girl*, are the 2016 winners of the Sydney Taylor Book Award.

The Sydney Taylor Book Award honors new books for children and teens that exemplify the highest literary standards while authentically portraying the Jewish experience. The award memorializes Sydney Taylor, author of the classic All-of-a-Kind Family series. The winners will receive their awards at the Association of Jewish Libraries Conference in Charleston, South Carolina this June.

Newman and Bates will receive the 2016 gold medal in the Sydney Taylor Book Award's Younger Reader category for *Ketzel, the Cat Who Composed*, published by Candlewick Press. This delightful picture book tells the true story of musician Morris Moshe Cotel, whose cat helped him compose a one-minute composition that received an honorable mention in the Paris New Music Review competition. The illustrations are heartwarming and add much charm to the story. Appelfeld, Dumas and Green will receive the 2016 gold medal in the Sydney Taylor Book Award's Older Readers category for *Adam and Thomas*, published by Seven Stories Press. This sweet story tells of two nine-year-old Jewish boys who survive the last winter of World War II, helping each other so that one grows physically stronger and braver and the other grows spiritually. Laura Amy Schlitz will receive the 2016 gold medal in the Sydney Taylor Book Award's Teen category for *The Hired Girl*, published by Candlewick Press. This sensitive story tells how fourteen-year-old Catholic Joan Skraggs becomes a hired girl to a Jewish family where she learns and grows in unexpected ways.

Five Sydney Taylor Honor Books were named for 2016. For Younger Readers, the Honor Books are *Everybody Says Shalom*, written by Leslie Kimmelman and illustrated by Talitha Shipman, published by Random House, and *Shanghai Sukkah*, written by Heidi Smith Hyde and illustrated by Jing Jing Tsong, published by Kar-Ben Publishing. *Hereville: How Mirka Caught a Fish* by Barry Deutsch, published by Amulet Books, is the Honor book in the Older Reader category. For Teen Readers, the Honor books are *Serendipity's Footsteps* by Suzanne Nelson, published by Alfred A. Knopf, a division of Random House, and *Stones on a Grave* by Kathy Kacer, published by Orca Book Publishers.

Winners and Honor recipients will be participating in a blog tour from February 7-12, 2016. For more information about the blog please visit <http://sydneytaylorbookaward.blogspot.com>

In addition to the medal winners, the Award Committee designated twelve Notable Books of Jewish Content for 2016. (The full list can be found on page 3). More information about the Sydney Taylor Book Award can be found at the [AJL website](http://www.ajl.org).

For more information contact:

Diane Rauchwerger, Chair, Sydney Taylor Book Award Committee
Association of Jewish Libraries
(408) 245-7641 / chair@sydneytaylorbookaward.org

AJL Online



Visit the AJL Web site at <http://www.jewishlibraries.org>.

To subscribe to Hasafran, please see instructions at <http://lists.service.ohio-state.edu/mailman/listinfo/hasafran>

AJL is now on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/ajl.org). Become a fan.

President's Corner

Submitted by Yaffa Weisman, AJL President (2014-2016)

yweisman@huc.edu, 213-765-2170

January 25, 2016

Dear AJL members,

As some of you may know, the AJL Board convened for a mid-winter phone conference on Sunday, January 17, 2016 to review our accomplishments since the last conference, discuss more ways to sustain and grow our Association, and outline some motions for your consideration and approval.

In some semi-annual reports sent in by Council members, we read about the amazing work that our volunteers are doing on behalf of all of us. Thank you!

I would like to share with you some good news about our fiscal situation reflected in our year-to-date budget submitted by our Treasurer, Kathy Bloch: thanks to a variety of fundraising efforts, from Jackie Ben Efraim's tripling (!) of our program ads' revenue, to donations to our Jubilee Fund, and a generous bequest from Judy Cohn's Z"l estate, we have ended the fiscal year in the green. Our bank balance (Operations & Savings accounts) stands at \$243,595.00. Getting to this point has been one of my strongest motivations for joining the Board and running for the President's position, and I am grateful to all who contributed hard work AND money to get us there.

At our meeting we approved the creation of "The Judy Cohn Conference Stipend Fund" to supplement the Association's own budget allocations for the same purpose. As such, this new fund would be added to the list of solicited donations promoted by AJL. A special link would be posted on our web site to direct such earmarked donations to the fund.

In the Development front, I am happy to announce that as of January 15, 2016, we have engaged the services of Elevate, a DC based fund raising company, to help us write grants and create an infrastructure for our future development activities. Our VP/Development Fred Isaac is our liaison with them, and we expect good returns.

And speaking of returns: I am looking forward to our next conference in Charleston, SC. Shoshanah Seidman, Jim Rosenbloom and a dedicated group of members and volunteers are working hard on putting all the moving parts together, and the very good news is that their efforts helped to significantly reduce the registration fees. Please follow the links on our web site to register. I hope to see all of you there.

In the meantime Jim, our National Conference Chair is working on confirming our 2017 conference location, and we will let you know about it soon.

This is nomination and elections season. Heidi Estrin is chairing a committee charged with charting the shape our future leadership. The new Board of AJL will be installed at the General Meeting during the Charleston Conference after we vote them into office in the next couple of months.

Our Strategic Planning is an ongoing process, led by Jackie Ben Efraim, with some visible and some less visible (but existing nonetheless) results. We hope to share the next version of it (8.2) on our web site soon.

In the areas of visibility and relevance I'm glad to report that Elliot Gertel, our ALA Liaison, with the help of other AJL members who are also ALA members, and some non-affiliated allies, succeeded in stopping an attempt to put a motion on the ALA's Council agenda to boycott Israeli Libraries.

Also in an effort to "be in the room" with leaders, clergy and laity, who make decisions about sustaining libraries in synagogues and schools, we have dispatched a small delegation to the URJ Biennial that was held in Orlando, Florida this past year. We did the same at United Synagogue of Conservative Judaism 2015 convention in Schaumburg, IL. Our members engaged attendees in these conferences in conversations about the roles of libraries, and AJL members who maintain them in their institutes. I hope to do more of the same in the next year, and perhaps be effective in stemming the pattern of closing libraries in Jewish day Schools and Centers.

Which brings me to the issue of attrition in the numbers of AJL members – they have been significantly reduced, and repeated creative efforts by our VP/Membership, Sheryl Stahl, to reverse the trend have hit a wall. On one hand this is common in the life of every membership based organization: retirement, loss of interest, frustration with perceived stagnation, and financial considerations are part and parcel of such a tide. On the other hand, it is incumbent upon all of us who cherish our affiliation with AJL to help improve and grow our Association so we can continue to provide not only benefits to our

members, but also leadership in our unique field.

I am cautiously optimistic about our collective future as the last quarter of my tenure as AJL President is coming to an end. This position is a unique combination of being a locomotive engineer and an orchestra conductor; the first allows one to see the road ahead while working to feed the engine that drives us all, and the second allowing a bird's eye view of collaborations and efforts to play our shared music and themes. It's a nice ride, most of the time, and from where I stand, it looks like our work is paying off and allowing all of us to make a difference in the world as we mend some broken vessels.

I am writing this on Tu Bi-Shvat, a day that celebrates growth and green and a promise of new fruit, and this is the spirit with which I sign off this message. Please stay in touch and do not hesitate to get in touch with me about any or all AJL matters.



**THE 2016 SYDNEY TAYLOR BOOK AWARDS
ANNOUNCED BY THE ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES**



**The Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner for
Younger Readers:**

Ketzel the Cat who Composed by Lesléa Newman
with illustrations by Amy June Bates
(Candlewick Press)

**The Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner for
Older Readers:**

Adam & Thomas by Aharon Appelfeld, translated
by Jeffrey M. Green
with illustrations by Philippe Dumas
(Seven Stories Press)

**The Sydney Taylor Book Award Winner for
Teen Readers:**

The Hired Girl by Laura Amy Schlitz
(Candlewick Press)

**Sydney Taylor Honor Books for Younger
Readers:**

Everybody Says Shalom by Leslie Kimmelman
with illustrations by Talitha Shipman
(Random House)
Shanghai Sukkah by Heidi Smith Hyde with
illustrations by Jing Jing Tsong
(Kar-Ben Publishing)

Sydney Taylor Honor Book for Older Readers:

Hereville: How Mirka Caught a Fish by Barry
Deutsch
(Amulet Books)

Sydney Taylor Honor Books for Teen Readers:

Serendipity's Footsteps by Suzanne Nelson
(Alfred A. Knopf, an imprint of Random House).
Stones on a Grave by Kathy Kacer
(Orca Book Publishers)

Notable Books for Younger Readers:

Hanukkah Cookies with Sprinkles by David A.
Adler, illustrated by Jeffrey Ebbeler
(Apple & Honey Press, an imprint of Behrman
House & Gefen Publishing House)
The Parakeet Named Dreidel by Isaac Bashevis
Singer illustrated by Suzanne Raphael Bedrkson
(Farrar Straus Giroux)
Sadie & Ori & the Blue Blanket by Jamie Korngold
illustrated by Julie Fortenberry
(Kar-Ben Publishers)

Notable Books for Older Readers:

The Girl in the Torch by Robert Sharenow
(Balzer + Bray, an imprint of
Harper Collins Publishers)
Mr. Doctor by Irene Cohen-Janca and illustrated
by Maurizio A. C. Quarello
(Annick Press)
The Safest Lie by Angela Cerrito
(Holiday House)
Watch Out for Flying Kids by Cynthia Levinson
(Peachtree)
The Wren & the Sparrow, by J. Patrick Lewis,
illustrated by Yevgenia Nayberg
(Kar-Ben Publishers)

Notable Books for Teens:

Courage & Defiance by Deborah Hopkinson
(Scholastic Press)
Deep Sea by Annika Thor
(Delacorte Press)
Imagining Katherine by Carol Solomon
(Tova Press)
Last Night at the Circle Cinema by Emily Franklin
(Carolrhoda Lab)

Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award

The Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award Committee has chosen *Honey and Me* by Meira Drazin as the winner of the 2016 Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award. The Award is given to an unpublished fiction manuscript for readers aged 8 to 13. The manuscript should appeal not just to Jewish readers and should present positive aspects of Jewish life.

Honey and Me is the story of a year in the friendship of Honey Wine and Milla Bloom, who narrates this story of the two Modern Orthodox sixth graders. The girls are very different in personality and family life but balance each other in their friendship.

The year is fraught with change, family crises, and personal growth including Honey's becoming a bat mitzvah in a women's minyan, the death of a beloved teacher, and Milla's complicated relationship with her mother.

While there were several outstanding entries in this year's competition, the judges were taken by the energy of the characters, the natural way Judaism was woven into the story and the contemporary flavor to the manuscript. Said one of the judges: "This is a modern American story set within an observant Jewish milieu." Another commented that "the variations in lifestyle between families of Orthodox Jews living in a modern and positive world are rarely depicted in such a non-judgmental way."

Ms. Drazin is a transplant from Toronto and New York to London, England, where she lives with her husband and four children. A graduate of Barnard College with an MA in English and Comparative Literature, she has been a senior editor for New York Family and is currently a freelance magazine writer.

Ms. Drazin was inspired by Sydney Taylor, the author of the beloved All-of-A-Kind Family series, which, she feels, shows the importance of the smaller dramas in everyday life. *Honey and Me* does indeed meld the everyday events in the lives of Honey and Milla with their Jewish identities.

The author especially appreciates the Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award during this current discussion in the children's literature world of diversity in children's books. In addition, she feels that "It's a huge honor and validation for any writer to be acknowledged for his or her work, not to mention tremendously exciting. But, as they say in the Talmud, 'kal va-chomer' – how much more so to be awarded the Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award, an honor literally named for the very inspiration for my project!"

Ms. Drazin has been invited to accept her award at the 51st Annual AJL Conference in Charleston, South Carolina in June 2016.



Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award - Call for Manuscripts

The Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award Committee is now open to receive manuscripts for the 2017 award. The Competition is open to unpublished writers of fiction for readers ages 8-13. Manuscripts should have broad appeal and show positive aspects of Jewish life. Short stories are not eligible. A complete [description of the Award and rules for submissions](#) are available on the AJL website.

Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award Committee Opening

The Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award Committee has an opening for one member. Members of AJL interested in serving on the Committee should have some background in book reviewing or similar experience and a familiarity with the goals and constructs of children's literature.

The committee's duties consist of reading unpublished manuscripts, completing an evaluative rubric and writing evaluations of those manuscripts. The committee then deliberates via email to choose a successful candidate and winner of the Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award.

Committee members must be able to meet deadlines and must commit to thoughtful, detailed written evaluations. Manuscripts for consideration are accepted until September 30; a decision is reached by mid-January.

The committee is especially interested in candidates from the Midwest, New England or outside of the US. Committee members must also be members in good standing of AJL.

[Further information about the award](#) is available on the AJL website.

To apply for membership on the Sydney Taylor Manuscript Award Committee (STMAC) please send a resume and 3 writing samples (preferably reviews) to stmacajl@aol.com.

WELCOME TO THE 51ST ANNUAL AJL CONVENTION!



We're looking forward to welcoming you to beautiful Charleston, South Carolina for our 51st Association of Jewish Libraries conference, to be held from June 19-22, 2016.

You'll find that Charleston is rich in Judaic and general history and culture. The [Charleston Marriott](#) is a comfortable and modern hotel that is located

in downtown Charleston. It has easy access to a variety of museums, shops, and other venues such as the College of Charleston. The Marriott will be the setting for many informative workshops, as well as interesting and vibrant conversation, networking and camaraderie.

The focus and theme of our conference this year is **Libraries of the Future: Innovate, Integrate, Motivate**. We hope that this conference will be highly productive and innovative in addressing current and future changes in libraries. Led by experts in their field, the Charleston conference's workshops will provide us with practical ideas to implement and much to think about as we move into the future.

We have scheduled exciting special programs such as a presentation by Bob Weil, commissioning editor at W.W. Norton, who started what seemed like a hopelessly ambitious project fifteen years ago. The recently published result of that effort – *The Complete Works of Primo Levi*, edited by Ann Goldstein with an introduction by Toni Morrison – has sparked a reappraisal of Primo Levi's life and work, not only as a witness to the twentieth century's greatest horror, but as one of its greatest writers.

We shall also learn about the digitized mapping undertaken by Diarna: The Geo-Museum of Jewish Life in the Middle East and North Africa, and planned by Dale Rosengarten and Harlan Greene from the College of Charleston.

We look forward to learning about and taking pride in all our colleagues' works and discoveries.

We shall be entertained and uplifted by the music of Tim Sparks on the 'Oud and Rabbi Ovadia.'

We shall sit around and sing and reconnect.

Please come! We are waiting for you!!

Conference Co-Chairs: Shoshanah Seidman and Irene Munster

Registration Information

This year conference registration and payment are being handled through the AJL website (see the [Upcoming Conference page](#)). **Members planning to attend the full conference must enter their member account login information in order to receive the member conference rates.** The Early Bird full registration rate for members and their spouses/partners (\$325 - a \$40 discount) will be available through **April 19**. After that, the full registration rate for members (\$365) will apply. Because members must log in in order to receive the member rate, it is important that member information is up-to-date. **Please review your member profile and update contact information as necessary before registering.** If you have any questions regarding your membership status or your ID and password, please contact **Sheryl Stahl, VP for Membership**, at sstahl@huc.edu. Non-members register by continuing as a guest at the Account Login page. Please note that it is more economical for non-members to join AJL and pay the member rate than to register for the conference as a non-member. Details about all of the registration options, as well as other conference information, can be found by going to the website's Upcoming Conference page.

Hotel Information

The conference will take place at the Charleston Marriott, 170 Lockwood Boulevard, Charleston, SC 29403. The AJL group rate for a room at the Charles Marriott is \$169 per night. Make your reservation at the [AJL Annual Conference reservations page](#).

Contacts for Further Information

- General conference and hotel information: **Conference Co-Chairs: Shoshanah Seidman** (sseidman@northwestern.edu) or **Irene Munster** (imunster@umd.edu).
- Registration information: **Marcie Eskin, AJL Conference Registrar**, at mjeskin@comcast.net or 847-926-7903.
- Payment questions: **Kathy Bloch, AJL Treasurer**, kbloch@spertus.edu.
- Stipends and Scholarships: **Lenore Bell, Conference Stipends Chair**, bell1614@msn.com.
- Exhibitors and vendors: **Jackie Ben-Efraim, Advertising Chair**, ajladmanager@gmail.com.

CONFERENCE PROGRAM At-A-GLANCE - *DRAFT (subject to change)*

Sunday, 19 June 2016

9 am - 12 pm	Board Meeting	
10 am - 6 pm	REGISTRATION & INFORMATION	
12 pm - 6 pm	Hospitality Suite Open	
12 pm - 6 pm	EXHIBITS OPEN	
12 pm - 3 pm	Council Meeting	
3 pm - 4 pm	Synagogue librarians roundtable	School librarians roundtable
3:30 pm -5pm	JCC without walls	Newcomers Welcome
5 pm - 6 pm	Judaica Librarianship Editorial Board Meeting (room), Accreditations Committee (room), RAS Cataloging Committee (room), Strategic Planning Committee (room)	
6:30 pm -9:30 pm	WELCOME DINNER, including Keynote Conversation: Martin Perlmutter & Katina Strauch Entertainment: Tim Sparks	
9 pm - 11 pm	Hospitality Suite Open; Sing along	

Monday, 20 June 2016

6 am	Morning Walk	
6:30 am	Orthodox Minyan	Egalitarian Minyan
7:15 am - 8:30 am	BREAKFAST Mentor Mingle table	
8 am - 5 pm	REGISTRATION & INFORMATION	
8 am - 5:15 pm	EXHIBITS OPEN	

Rooms	1A: RAS track	1B: SSC track	1C: All track	1D: SSC track: workshop
8:30 am -9.25 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preliminary report on ongoing archival & library work at the Nidhe Israel Synagogue and Museum in Bridgetown, Barbados (Amalia Levi); Treasures of the JDC archives & resources for librarians (Linda Levi); Submerged archives: the acquisition, archival & annihilation of local Jewish archives (Serena Bazemore) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From paper to digital: how one library transformed itself (Susan Kusel); Strategies for weeding the small library collection (Susan Freiband) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mizrahi & Judeo Arabic traditional music (Haim Ovadia); Music Collection at the Klau Library HUC-JIR New York (Yoram Bitton) ; Tim Sparks <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Full STEAM Ahead with Children's Programming (Jacqueline Peters)
9.25am-9.35am	Break			
Rooms	2A: RAS track	2B: SSC track	2C: All track: Roundtable sessions	2D: All track: Workshop
9.35 am -10.40 am Panel sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The role of the court Jew in southern Germany (Marga Hirsch); Honoured and venerable sir ... (Vanessa Freedman); La Polaca - the Story of the Zwi Migdal, (Rita Saccal) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> From the ground up: a complete library renovation (Karen Ulric); Building the alliance : school and public libraries (Ben Pastcan) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> RAS librarians collection development RAS cataloging Israel and Judaica section (IJ) 	<p>Assessing and Improving Your Library's Social Media Presence (Julia Skinner)</p>

10.40 am-11.00am	Break			
Rooms	3A: All track : TedTalk	3B: All track: TedTalk	3C: All track	3D: SSC track : Workshop / exhibit
11:00 am -12:30 pm Panel sessions	<p><u>RAS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Kabbalistic view of Jewish bibliography (Elhanan Adler); Collecting to Fundraise; Fundraising to Collect - tales from the Price Library of Judaica NEH Challenge Grant (Rebecca Jefferson); Highlights of Israel & Judaica (Gail Shirazi) <p><u>SSC:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> We came to America (Ellen Share); Tablet (Sara Ivry) Library Advocacy - the role of the school librarian (Joyce Levine); From Nextbook "let's talk about it " to Oakton Reads : Jewish Literature discussion groups in a community College Setting (Debbie Feder & Rose Novil) 	<p><u>SSC:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Instituto Alberto Einstein of Panamá (Denise Blumenfeld); What Barnes & Noble Can Do For You (Loevenguth) <p><u>RAS:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> General News from LoC (Aaron Taub); New synagogue bulletins collection from YUL (Deena Schwimmer); Fartaytshed un Farbesert? Translated and improved? (Shulamith Berger) From MS (Moritz Steinschneider) to MS (Menachem Schmelzer: 10 extraordinary 20th Jewish scholar librarians in the Historical Context of safeguards of Jewish sacred text across millennia"- What we have to learn today from Moritz Steinschneider, Abraham Berliner, Solomon Schechter, Umberto Cassutto, Alexander Marx, Rabbi Efraim Oshry, Dr. Chaim Vilsker, Gershon Scholem, Stefen Reif, and Menachem Schmelzer (David Levy) 	BDS: Dr. Josef Olmert	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> SIRS/ Mandari n: Carlos Cagin & Art Graham OPALS ExLibris
12:30 pm -2:00 pm	<p>Luncheon Guest Speakers: Robert Weil (Editor-in-Chief and Publishing Director of Liveright, a division of W.W. Norton). Presentation: "Primo Levi in America"</p>			
Rooms	4A: RAS track	4B: SSC track	4C: All track: Workshop	4D
2:00 pm - 3:00 pm Panel sessions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Building Israel Nation: two decades of collecting initiatives at Stanford (Zachary Baker); The modern library - UM's Jewish Heritage Collection as a model of innovation and integration (Arielle Sokol) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Virtual Book Discussion: AJL Reads (Heidi Estrin/Debbie Feder); The Newbery Challenge: an exciting reading initiative (Noreen Wachs); <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A Tale to Tell: So You Want to get Published (Joni Sussman) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jewish South Carolina (Dale Rosengarten) Jews in Antebellum South Carolina (Ya'akov Aronson) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>
3:00pm - 3:15pm	Break			
3:15 pm - 4:15 pm Panel sessions	5. Expanding Collections and New Technology at the National Library of Israel (Yoel Finkelman) YES; Strategic Planning: Library of Congress (Roberta Schaffer)			
2:00pm-4:00pm	SSC visits the Addestone Library at the College of Charleston. Only 40 people			
4:30 pm - 5:20 pm Division meetings	RAS meeting		SSC meeting	
5:20pm - 5:30pm	Break			

Monday, 20 June 2016

5:30 pm - 6:30 pm	General meeting with installation of officers	
6:30 pm - 8:15 pm	Dinner (On Your Own) See Program Book for Kosher Options	Egalitarian Minyan (room) Orthodox Minyan (room)
8:15 pm -10:30 pm	Evening event: Documentary Film Screening Hospitality Suite Open 6.30pm – 11.00pm	

Tuesday, 21 June 2016

6 am	Morning Walk		
6:30 am	Orthodox Minyan		Egalitarian Minyan
7:15 am - 8:30 am	BREAKFAST		
8:00 am – 5 pm	REGISTRATION & INFORMATION		
8 am - 3:30 pm	EXHIBITS OPEN		
Rooms	5A RAS track	5B SSC track	5C All track
8:30 am – 10:00 am	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mapping Jewish Charleston (Harlan Greene) Diarna (Jason Guberman) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recommended Reads: The Latest & Greatest in Jewish Fiction for Adults (Kamin, Tilman & Weidman) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Merging collections for user's benefit (Sonia Smith); Treat them like customers (Shulamis Hes); What's a nice Jewish book group doing in a Catholic University? The book group as a community outreach tool (Rhonda Rosen) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>
10.00am – 10.30am	Break		

Rooms	6A RAS track	6B SSC track	6C All track
10:30 am – 12:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Preserving History: The construction of the David and Fela Shapell Family Collections and Conservation Center of the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum (Travis Roxlau), A Niche Collection in a Non-Knish Land: On Stewarding and Marketing a "Special" Special Collection (Rachel Leket-Mor); What you don't know about the NEH challenge grant (Rebecca Jefferson/Bess de Farber) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wonderful world of international children's books (Lisa Silverman & Elissa Gershowitz); Israeli literary greats writing works for young readers -an introduction and an overview (Michlean Amir); Humor in Israeli picture books for children (Naomi Morse); PJLibrary (Meredith Lewis) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Lahiton/Cinema world image collection at Stanford Univ. Libraries (Anna Levia); New opportunities for Israeli film (Isaac Zablocki); Israeli cinema (Ravit Turjeman) <p><i>Moderator:</i></p>
12:00 - 1:45 pm	Awards Lunch: Mr. Harry Chan MediaFlex/OPAL		
Rooms	7A RAS track	7B SSC track	7C All track
2:00 pm – 3:50 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As it is written: highlights of an exhibition (Barry Walfish); The Pfefferkorn/Reuchlin debate(Renate Evers); What is Judaica? Measuring the Harvard Judaica Collection (Elizabeth Vernon); <i>Moderator:</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Panel of Sydney Taylor Award (session 1) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Crossing Borders --The Transatlantic Migrations of the Nunes Carvalhos over 500 years (Keith and Nancy Atkinson); Sephardic Translators and Anglo-Iberian Diplomacy in Colonial Charleston (Nicholas Butler) <p><i>Moderator:</i> Marianne Cawley</p>

Tuesday, 21 June 2016

3:50pm - 4:00pm	Break		
Rooms	8A	8B SSC track	8C All track Workshop
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> OCLC update 	Panel of Sydney Taylor Award (session 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Social Networking and Patron Engagement (Sara Arnold)
5:30 pm	Minhah Orthodox Minyan, Egalitarian Minyan		
6 pm - 7 pm	RECEPTION		
7pm - 10 pm	Awards Banquet		
10 pm - midnight	Hospitality Suite Open		
10 pm	Maariv Orthodox Minyan, Egalitarian Minyan		

Wednesday, 22 June 2016

6 am	Morning Walk	
6:30 am - 7:15 am	Orthodox Minyan	Egalitarian Minyan
7:15 am - 8:15 am	Breakfast (On Your Own or Pre-Ordered Kosher Boxed Breakfast)	
8:30 am - 11.30am	Tours	
10:00 am - 12:30 pm	Post-Conference De-Briefing	
1.00pm - 3.00pm	Visit to the Addestone Library at the College of Charleston. Only 40 people	

CHAPTER CHATTER

AJL SOUTH CALIFORNIA (AJLSC)

Submitted by Ellen Cole

Our first big program in October was a smashing tour of Jewish artists at our city's major museum, LACMA, the [Los Angeles County Museum of Art](#). Bonnie Stark, a museum docent and member of AJLSC led our Sunday afternoon tour. She chose a wonderful selection of German, Russian, Lithuanian, Italian and American Jewish artists. Their work spanned the 19th and 20th centuries. The featured paintings, graphics and sculptures considered many topics. The most striking was a work by a non-Jewish artist who did a 3D "presentation" against anti-Semitism. Most of the artists were major names: Chagall, Kienholz, Krasner, Lichtenstein, Lipschitz, Meidner, Modigliani, Nevelson, Pissarro, Rothko, Shapiro and Soutine.



We printed the **Jewish Book Month brochures for 2016**, one each for adults and children, written by Ellen Cole, published and distributed before Hanukkah by Lisa Silverman. These brochures suggest current books for holiday gifts and general Jewish reading throughout the year. Lisa distributed them to all branches of the Los Angeles City Public Library and County Library systems. AJLSC members received copies for their libraries, temples and schools. The pamphlet is online via our [AJLSC website](#). Download and enjoy good reading in 2016.

As you read this we just finished January's Council Meeting to plan our February outing. It will be a private tour of the Library and Museum of the [Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust](#). Don't forget, [AJLSC is on Facebook!](#) Look for "AJLSC" and "like" us. Visit our fabulous [AJLSC website](#) run by member Barbara Leff! We are current and interesting!

Virtual Ways to Party

By Heidi Estrin

It's always fun when AJL members can get together in person at a chapter meeting or conference, but for most of the year we are scattered far and wide. That's why AJL's Member Relations has dreamed up several projects that AJL members and friends can participate in from home.

AJL READS! Virtual Book Club

In 2015, AJL kicked off a live and virtual book club, [AJL READS!](#) Meetings are held four times a year: once live at the annual conference, and three more times virtually throughout the year. The program was initiated at the 50th Annual AJL Conference in Silver Spring, MD in June, 2015 with the book *The Betrayers* by David Bezmozgis. In October, we met by call-in show to discuss *The Wayward Moon* by Janice Weizman (a recording of the lively conversation may be heard on the [AJL Virtual section](#) of the website [jewishlibraries.org](#)). At the time of writing (January), we are preparing to discuss *My Russian Grandmother and Her American Vacuum Cleaner* by Meir Shalev, once again via call-in show. [AJL READS!](#) has proven to be an excellent way for us to connect and share our thoughts, both live and virtually.

Please join us for the next discussion on Sunday, March 13 at 9pm Eastern/8pm Central/6pm Pacific Time to talk about *The English Spy* by Daniel Silva. Call (724) 444-7444 and enter the Call ID 139461 to participate! The discussion will last approximately one hour.

#Readukkah, the Jewish Reading Challenge

In October 2015, AJL's first ever Jewish Reading Challenge was announced. We invited readers to read any Jewish book and review it online during the week of Hanukkah, using the hashtag [#Readukkah](#) to help us find each other. The idea behind [#Readukkah](#) was to generate buzz about Jewish books, to spread the word about worthwhile titles. By bringing Jewish titles to the attention of more readers, we can increase the market and support the publishing of more Jewish books.

Quindaro Press was excited to learn about [#Readukkah](#) and offered us a giveaway of *Firebrand* by Aaron Barnhart. This YA historical fiction novel chronicles the life of August Bondi, a Jewish freedom fighter in the Civil War who fought alongside John Brown. Five lucky [#Readukkah](#) participants were drawn to receive copies of this dramatic new title.

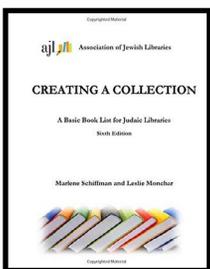
Seventy-six people registered for [#Readukkah](#), and posted reviews on blogs, GoodReads, Amazon, Facebook, Hasafran, LibraryThing, Shelfari, Barnes & Noble, and Twitter. Participants were invited to share their reviews on AJL's blog via Padlet, a virtual bulletin board that allowed us to pin images and links of book reviews in one central location. Visit [jewishlibraries.org/blog](#) to check it out.

Facebook & Twitter

If you are a user of Facebook or Twitter, be sure to "like" or "follow" AJL, and to leave us comments or tweet us! We post AJL news and articles of related interest such as announcements of Jewish award winning books, Jewish literary museum exhibits, digital collections being made available to the public, and so on. Find us on Facebook at [facebook.com/jewishlibraries](#) and on Twitter at [@jewishlibraries](#).

New Publication by AJL!

Submitted by Joyce Levine, Publications Chair



AJL is pleased to announce publication of the 6th edition of [Creating a Collection: A Basic Book List for Judaic Libraries](#) by Marlene Schiffman and Leslie Monchar. This bibliography is an invaluable resource for new libraries, providing a fully annotated list of non-fiction books in all categories of Judaica. Many recent titles have been added to this expanded edition. Existing libraries in synagogues, centers, schools and academic institutions will also benefit from reviewing the list to ensure that their collections are comprehensive and up-to-date. The book is available through [Amazon](#).

Keep Up to Date with Hasafran

Hasafran is the electronic discussion list of the Association of Jewish Libraries. It was created in 1991 to provide a forum for the discussion of Judaica librarianship. The list is moderated by Joseph (Yossi) Galron, Jewish studies librarian at The Ohio State University. The views expressed in the list are the opinions of the participants and not necessarily the views of the moderator or of AJL.

To subscribe to Hasafran, please see instructions at

To post a message to Hasafran, send your message to: hasafran@lists.osu.edu

You will receive a confirmation message.

A keyword-searchable [archive](#) of Hasafran messages posted since June 12, 2003 is now available.

Scholarship Committee Report

SUBMITTED BY SARAH BARNARD, SCHOLARSHIP COMMITTEE MEMBER

The AJL Scholarship Fund is languishing for lack of donations. That's a good thing if it means that no one has died or gotten sick in the last couple of months. It's a bad thing if it means that no one has been born, married, retired, had a birthday, published something, or had any other event worthy of congratulations.

Donations to the AJL Scholarship Fund help deserving students in Library and Information Science programs by providing up to two annual scholarships. Our profession really needs some new and younger Librarians who can take the place of those of us who are soon to retire. Can you think of a better way to encourage them than to help support their studies?

If you know of anyone who might want to apply for a scholarship, (\$1000 to a student enrolled or accepted in a graduate school of library and information science) have that person contact Tina Weiss, TWeiss@huc.edu or look at the [AJL website](#) to get the application and other information.

You can donate on the [website](#) or by check. If it is on the website, be sure to fill in the information about the occasion and the donor. It will get to me and I will send the tribute card. If you send a check, be sure to add your name and address or email and the name, address and reason for the donation for the tribute card. I look forward to hearing from you. Send check donations to:

Sarah M. Barnard

5646 Hunters Lake

Cincinnati, OH 45249

Email: sarmarbar68@gmail.com

AJL Scholarship Donation Form

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Credits and Contact

Association of Jewish Libraries

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Teaneck, NJ 07666
(201) 371-3255

The AJL Newsletter (Irene Levin-Wixman z"l, founding editor) was published in print from 1979 to 2010 by the Association of Jewish Libraries to inform members about AJL activities and issues related to Judaica libraries. As of January 2011 it is split into two separate electronic publications - the AJL News and the AJL Reviews. Receipt of these publications is one of the benefits of membership. Please see the AJL website at <http://www.jewishlibraries.org> for membership rates.

Editor-in-Chief

Uri Kolodney
University of Texas Libraries
The University of Texas at Austin
One University Station S5400
Austin, TX 78712-8916
generaleditor@jewishlibraries.org

Adult Review Editors

Daniel Scheide	Dr. Rebecca Jefferson
S.E. Wimberly Library	Head, Isser and Rae Price
Florida Atlantic University	Library of Judaica
777 Glades Road	539, Library West
Boca Raton, FL 33431-6424	George A. Smathers Libraries
561-297-0519	University of Florida
dascheide@gmail.com	Gainesville, FL. 32611-7010
	Phone: (352) 273-2650
	Fax: (352) 392-8118
	jefferson@ufl.edu

Please send adult books for review to D. Scheide

Children and YA Review Editors

Rachel Kamin
1054 Holly Circle
Lake Zurich, IL 60047
rachelkamin@gmail.com
and Chava (Kathe) Pinchuck
kpinchuck@gmail.com

Please send children's and YA books for review to Rachel Kamin

All links to online resources were checked for accuracy on February 7, 2016.

We cannot be responsible for broken links to those resources in the future.

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Copy Editing and Page Layout

Karen Ulric
Golda Och Academy
1418 Pleasant Valley Way
West Orange, NJ 07052
ajlcopyeditor@gmail.com

Please send requests for membership and dues information to:

AJL VP for Membership
Sheryl Stahl
Frances-Henry Library, HUC-JIR
3077 University Ave.
Los Angeles, CA 90007
membership@jewishlibraries.org

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Jackie Ben-Efraim
Ostrow Library
American Jewish University
15600 Mulholland Dr.
Los Angeles, CA 90077
(818) 383-9672 (cell)
ajladmanager@gmail.com