

## Come learn. Come connect. Come home.

#### Speakers - Israel@70

Thursday, January 18, lunch at 12 PM, lecture at 1 PM Rabbi Arie Hasit - From Talking to a Wall to Building Bridges: The Quest for Jewish Pluralism in Israel

With the collapse of the Kotel Compromise Agreement, the continued monopoly of the Ultra-Orthodox Rabbinate, and a series of disparaging remarks by Israeli government ministers, it sometimes seems like fighting for religious pluralism is a constant battle. At the same time, Conservative rabbis and community leaders on the ground are finding new ways to build bridges to Israelis thirsty for an open-minded approach to Judaism. Come join Rabbi Arie Hasit, the founding rabbi of a new Masorti community in the town of Mazkeret Batya, to learn about the challenges and opportunities of creating a dynamic community in Israel that celebrates pluralism.

#### Wednesday, January 31, Nosh 6:30-7 PM, Class 7-8:15 PM

**Rachel Korazim -** *On a Silver Platter - The Birth of an Iconic Text* Among the many beautiful literary works created in Israel, there are a few that acquired an iconic position. Of those, Alderman's "The Silver Platter," is in a unique position as the ritual text of commemoration for soldiers fallen for the defense of the state. It is recited in ceremonies all over Israel every Yom Hazikaron and is included in many siddurim. This session will explore the circumstances and events that brought about the composition of this outstanding text. We will study the poem in depth uncovering references to the past and prophetic visions of the future for the State of Israel.

### Thursday, February 1, Lunch and Class 10-12:15 PM

Rachel Korazim - 1967 - Anxiety - Euphoria – Concern When thinking about the 1967 "Six Days War" retrospectively, there is often times a dichotomy between those who mainly remember a glorious victory, the unification of Jerusalem, the liberation of the Old City and the Western Wall. Others will focus their thoughts and reflections on the fifty years of occupation, the controversy surrounding the settlements and the seemingly endless Israel – Palestinian conflict. The purpose of these series of session is to try and move away from this dichotomy and bring back to life through song and poetry the spirit and the authentic voices of 1967 and their lingering impacts on our lives today.

#### Wednesday, February 21, Nosh 6:30-7 PM Class 7-8:15 PM

**Bat El Trabelsi** - Why is Peace in the Middle East so Complicated? Israeli Emissary for the Jewish Community of Greater Philadelphia
Have you ever wondered why the conflict seems to be never ending?
Popular Israeli philosopher Micha Goodman deeply researched Israeli attitudes on the struggle with Palestinians and offers new ways to frame and discuss the issue and we will discuss his proposal in this program.

#### Monday, March 12, 8 AM after minyan and breakfast

strategies for protecting Israel's legitimacy?

**Yaakov Malomet** from the Reut Institute - *BDS, Delegitimization, and the State of Israel: A Strategic Look*In the last 10 years, Israel and the American Jewish community have dedicated significant resources to facing this challenge, with mixed results. What is the state of de-legitimization today? What are the best

# Wednesday Night Adult Ed Series - Israel@70 6:20-7 PM - light fare and refreshments

7-8 PM - Classes

#### January 17, 24 and February 14

**Ben Rotenberg** - Competing Visions for the Jewish State We will be exploring the words by important early Zionist thinkers and sharing our responses to their own dreams and concerns about Israel. We will be using Arthur Hertzberg's book, "The Zionist Idea," along with images and articles from the late 19th and early 20th centuries.

#### March 14, 21, and 28

**Aviva Habib** - Hebrew Music and Poetry - Cultural Development A closer look into how Israeli culture has developed over the last 70 years.

#### May 9, 16, 23, and 30

Norman Einhorn - Trending News and Events in Israel Today
This class tackles those topics talked about at the water cooler
and dinner table. Past classes have dealt with BDS, IsraeliPalestinian Conflict, Anti-Semitism, Immigration, US Elections,
Israeli Advocacy and the future of American synagogues.

#### Programs - Israel@70

Sunday, March 4 - 10AM - 12PM @HZT

My Israel Story

Sponsored by the Jewish Federation of Greater Philadelphia. For more information, please visit: jewishphilly.org/event/my-israel-story



#### Sunday, April 15

JFGRS Israel Day celebration of both Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzmaut

#### Tuesday, April 17-7PM

Community-Wide Yom Hazikaron Commemoration at Har Zion

#### Sunday, April 29 - 10AM-12PM. Kaiserman JCC

KLM Israel Games - Har Zion children from second-fourth grades will participate in a "Macabia" style program

## Sunday, May 6 - 12-5PM at Valley Forge Event Center

Philadelphia Community-Wide Yom Ha'atzmaut Celebration

These programs are generously sponsored by the Shirley & Norman Greenbaum Yom Ha'atzmaut Fund