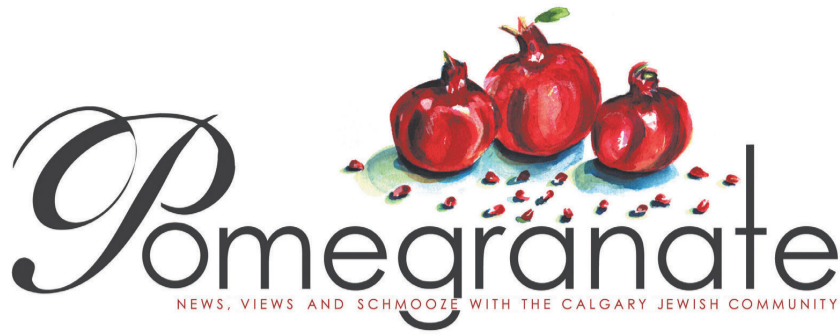


Want to know what's going on in Jewish Calgary? Check out the Community Calendar at jewishcalgary.org

Have an event? Click on "Suggest an Event" to add it to the calendar



jewishcalgary.org



A MESSAGE FROM LISA LIBIN

As we approach the month of Nissan, I have been thinking a lot about what the upcoming "Yoms" – Yom HaShoah, Yom HaZikaron, and Yom HaAtzmaut – will look like this year.

How does one commemorate significant holidays whose foundations are based on honouring those who have given their lives for the Jewish people and remembering victims of terror who have lost their lives because of hate, when over the past seven months we have witnessed unimaginable pogroms and the massive spike in hate crimes and antisemitism – the same evils that ultimately led to the Holocaust 80 years ago? And how will our collective wounds of the last few months impact our ability to meaningfully connect to atrocities and losses that preceded it so many decades ago?

As well, how do we celebrate the birthday of Israel during this time of acute adversity, when our friends and families there are living in a seven-month state of war and here at home we feel like everyone around us is calling for the abolishment of our homeland?

The reality is that any Jewish celebration or commemoration is different since October 7. Most recently many of us celebrated Passover with an empty chair at our seder tables for our hostages. And as we face the upcoming Yoms we need to recognize that these events will be different too – but also more important than ever.

For Yom HaShoah, we need to always remember that the Holocaust is categorically different from every other persecution or genocide in all of human history. It stands apart and deserves its own day for reflection, and this year serves as a staunch reminder of how, through propaganda and hate, the Holocaust was able to occur. Secondly, as long as we are blessed to have survivors among us, we owe it to them and to ourselves to show up, to honour them, to learn from them, and simply to be with them.

This year we commemorate Yom HaZikaron by honouring Israel's fallen soldiers and terror victims, including those lost on October 7 and those we've lost fighting in Gaza this year. We need to not only

commemorate the past, but also reflect on how our life continues even though some of our loved ones will not return.

And finally, for Yom HaAtzmaut, it will be important for us to rejoice in overcoming adversity to build the state of Israel, even as we currently mourn our losses. For over 75 years, Jewish communities across the world have celebrated Israel's triumphs and also its challenges – and this year is another challenge we need to both recognize while also celebrating the existence and critical importance of Israel, as well as the intimate connection we feel towards the country.

However you choose to recognize these "Yoms" I hope you will do it together with our community as we collectively mourn our losses but also come together with strength and resilience. *Am Yisrael Chai.*

L. Libin

Lisa Libin
President, Calgary Jewish Federation

Building an inclusive community is a priority. Contact us and we will make every effort to meet your needs.

Violins of Hope



StudioBell | National Music Centre | Centre National de Musique

MAY 3 TO JUNE 16
SUNDAY TO SATURDAY
10AM TO 5PM

Violins of Hope is an exhibition of historic instruments that survived the Second World War. The collection of instruments come from a variety of backgrounds but are tied together through the singular history of the persecution of European Jews and the Holocaust.

SUNDAY, MAY 26
7:30PM

Concert featuring Montreal-based musician Socalled with string quartet including a mix of lively and heart-wrenching Yiddish arrangements.

SUNDAY, JUNE 2
7:30PM

Concert featuring Lenka Lichtenberg's *The Secret Poetess of Terezin* – an immersive and intimate performing arts experience that audiences have been strongly connecting with.

CALGARY PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA WEDNESDAY MAY 15 7:30PM

Join us at the Jack Singer Concert Hall for a musical journey from Holocaust to hope, in a unique concert where restored instruments once belonging to Jewish victims of the Holocaust, come to life through stories of injustice, suffering, resilience, and survival.

Doors open one hour early for a pre-concert meet and greet with Avshi Weinstein, owner of the violins.



HOLOCAUST AND HUMAN RIGHTS Remembrance and Education POWERED BY CALGARY JEWISH FEDERATION

With gratitude, we recognize our many donors for ensuring that the music of the Holocaust is remembered.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND TO PURCHASE TICKETS VISIT JEWISHCALGARY.ORG/VIOLINS-OF-HOPE

PJ LIBRARY® CALGARY AND JCC GOLDEN AGE DEPARTMENT PRESENT:

L'DOR V'DOR FROM MY KITCHEN TO YOURS

SUNDAY, MAY 19 10AM-12PM • PAPERNY FAMILY JCC

Bubbies and Zadies are asked to please bring a few of their favourite recipes.

Families will get to design 1 to 2 pages that will be put into a cookbook.

Bring your grandparents and grandpals to this special multi-generational program!



Register at QR code or go to jewishcalgary.org

Each family will receive one complimentary cookbook

For information contact Sydney Truax at struax@jewishcalgary.org or 403-537-8592.

It's Moments Like This



All events on this page are made possible by your gifts to Calgary Jewish Federation's annual UJA Campaign.