



High Holidays Services Registration Now Open, From the Mediterranean to the Northern Lights series returns in September, Upcoming Programs, Shul Tours and More – August 17, 2026

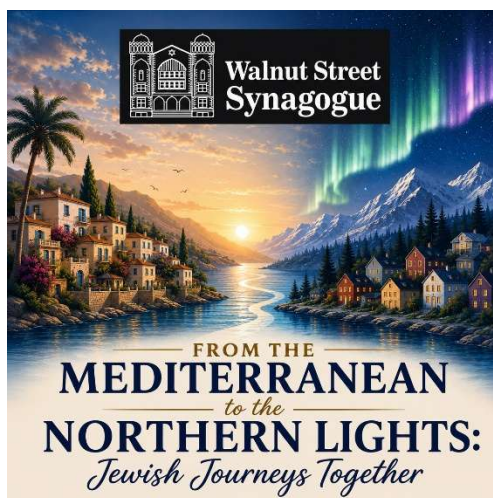
HIGH HOLIDAYS

The Walnut Street Synagogue is pleased to offer High Holiday services this year in our historic synagogue. Our spacious 1,109 seat sanctuary has plenty of room for you, your family and friends. Advance registration is required due to security, planning and public health considerations. There is no charge to attend services, but donations are suggested. This year we will be welcoming back Moshe Stein from New Jersey who will be leading services.

Register here to attend services - <https://www.jotform.com/form/262284483814160>

High Holidays website - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/high-holidays-2026-5787/>

FROM THE MEDITERRANEAN TO THE NORTHERN LIGHTS: JEWISH JOURNEYS TOGETHER



Jewish Finland Tour

Thursday, September 17, 12:00 pm ET (online)

Our series concludes with a virtual visit to the Jewish community in Finland. The Finnish Jewish community is a small but active community that encompasses a synagogue a Jewish school, Chabad house and sports activities by the only Maccabi in Europe that did not stop operating during World War II. Today the Finnish Union of Jewish Students is one of the most active ones in Northern Europe and has been recently awarded the prize of the Developing Union of the Year by the World Union of Jewish Students (WUJS). Finland is the northernmost Jewish community in Europe and its traditions and active Jewish life is as diverse and alive as in any big city elsewhere.

Our presentation will be given by **Beto Guzman**, our guide, who is originally from Mexico but has lived in Helsinki since 2015. As an activist and community organizer, he has been working and volunteering in the Finnish Jewish community first as a Moishe House host and even starting the Finnish Union of Jewish

Students.

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/jewish-finland-tour-tickets-1989627159393?aff=oddtcreator>

Learn more about the series here - <https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/mediterranean-to-northern-lights/>

CSP

We are pleased to be a partner congregation of the Orange County Jewish **Community Scholar Program (CSP)**. Please join us at an upcoming program!



Architects of Exile – From European Modernism to the American Dream **Tuesday, August 18, 1:00 pm ET (online)**

Inspired by the themes explored in the film *The Brutalist*, join Dr. Dan Handel for a fascinating journey into the real stories of Jewish architects who escaped Europe before and during World War II and carried revolutionary ideas of modern design across the Atlantic. Through the lives and work of figures such as Richard Neutra, Marcel Breuer, and Erich Mendelsohn, we will explore how experiences of exile, loss, and reinvention shaped a generation of architects who transformed the American landscape. From the cultural centers of Europe to the expanding cities of the United States, these émigré artists and thinkers challenged tradition and helped usher in a bold new vision of architecture, one that replaced historical styles with modern forms reflecting a changing world.

Dr. Dan Handel is an architect, author, curator, and Associate Professor at the University of Haifa whose work explores the overlooked ideas, people, and forces that shape the built environment. He holds a PhD in Architecture from the Technion Israel Institute of Technology and a MArch II from Harvard University's Graduate School of Design. An internationally recognized curator, Handel has created architecture and design exhibitions for leading institutions including the Venice Biennale, the Nieuwe Instituut in Rotterdam, the Canadian Centre for Architecture in Montreal, the Tel Aviv Museum of Art, the Israel Museum, and the Haifa Museum of Art. His latest project, *Game of Goose*, is a site-specific exhibition with artist Maayan Elyakim at the historic VDL House in Silver Lake, Los Angeles.

https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/VU1uwU_URbWkXd7tZ8QggQ#/registration

Looking Jewish – Reimagining Jewish and Israeli Visual Culture **Sunday, August 23, 1:00 pm ET (online)**

Join us for a creative journey exploring the power of visual storytelling to transform the way we encounter Jewish life, learning, and identity. Through a personal story of artistic exploration and self-discovery, we will challenge familiar ideas of what "Jewish art" looks like, uncover surprising connections between the sacred and the everyday, and examine how contemporary culture can open new pathways into tradition. Together, we will discover how images, symbols, and creativity can become powerful tools for building meaning, sparking curiosity, and connecting diverse communities to timeless Jewish ideas.

Dov Abramson is a Jerusalem-based artist and designer whose work explores Jewish and Israeli culture, identity, and visual storytelling. A graduate of the Bezalel Academy of Arts and Design, he received the Felheim Prize for his innovative redesign of the Talmud page. His work has been exhibited internationally, including at the Contemporary Jewish Museum in San Francisco, and is part of the permanent collections of the Israel Museum and The Jewish Museum in New York. Dov lives in Jerusalem with his wife, Sarit, and is the father of three daughters. Together, Dov and Sarit recently completed a journey walking the entire Mediterranean coastline of Israel.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/VcYmrspS5e4FRmZTS5T8A#/registration>

Exploring the Masterpieces of Art in Rome, Florence, and Venice

Part 2 - Thursday, September 3, 1:00 pm ET (online)

Part 3 - Thursday, October 1, 1:00 pm ET (online)

Join acclaimed artist Tobi Kahn for a captivating three-part adventure through the artistic soul of Italy, where every stone, canvas, and canal tells a story. From the eternal layers of Rome, where ancient sculpture, Renaissance genius, and contemporary vision meet in the Vatican Museums, Galleria Borghese, Musei Capitolini, Palazzo Barberini, and MAXXI; to Florence, the birthplace of the Renaissance, where Michelangelo's David, Botticelli's Birth of Venus, and Brunelleschi's soaring Duomo forever changed the way humanity sees beauty; to the magical waterways of Venice, where Byzantine splendor, Renaissance masters, Murano glass, delicate lace traditions, and daring engineering created a city unlike any other. Together, we will explore not only Italy's greatest masterpieces, museums, and architectural wonders, but also the artists, patrons, ideas, and innovations that transformed Italy into one of the world's most extraordinary centers of creativity and civilization.

Tobi Kahn is an internationally acclaimed painter and sculptor whose work has been featured in more than 70 solo museum exhibitions and is included in major collections worldwide, including the Solomon R. Guggenheim Museum, The Phillips Collection, The Jewish Museum, the Houston Museum of Fine Arts, and the Yale University Art Gallery. A longtime educator, Kahn has taught fine arts at New York's School of Visual Arts for over 30 years and lectures internationally on visual language, creativity, and art as a source of healing. He holds a BA from Hunter College and an MFA from Pratt Institute. His upcoming solo survey exhibition, *Quest for the Essence*, will be presented at the Boca Raton Museum of Art from November 2026 through April 2027.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/join/91234567890?pwd=Zm9ud2VhcnR5bWVudDZrAQ==/registration>

COMMUNITY PARTNER PROGRAMS

Holding Community in Uncertain Times

Tuesday, August 25, 2:30 pm ET

(online program presented by Combined Jewish Philanthropies)

Join Rabbi Marc Baker, President and CEO of CJP, Marty Martinez, President and CEO of United Way of Massachusetts Bay, and Kelley Tuthill, President and CEO of Catholic Charities Boston, for a conversation about leadership, community resilience, and what it takes to navigate uncertainty and change.

https://www.eventbrite.com/e/holding-community-in-uncertain-times-virtual-event-tickets-1997487930170?utm_medium=email&hsenc=p2ANqtz--tfyTxJfRWNsAJLzglfool6cy6Y6ZcrmzeA5I-ZfVnZNq5nruBecWzN9-2JFfk_M7Jvt9neuz-pHj3UM8ZNkd3CgSmx6Yp6OPEPMJtKxkt9LC4gcc&hsmi=432855716&utm_content=432855716&utm_source=hs_email

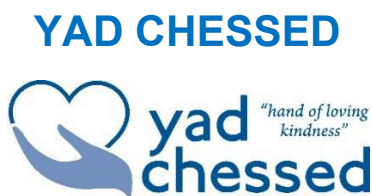
SHUL TOURS

If you live in the Boston area and have never seen our historic shul, or haven't visited in a while, or if you plan to visit the area, we welcome you to see our shul in person! Tour our historic synagogue that was built in 1909 and was added to the National Register of Historic Place in 1993. Come see our 1,109-seat sanctuary with its painted ceiling and wall frescoes, murals and carved wood Aron Kodesh. Check out our collection of Judaica, artwork, photos, documents, books, posters and plaques that come from our synagogue, synagogues in Chelsea that have closed along with fraternal, social and educational organizations from Chelsea and elsewhere in Greater Boston. Please follow the link below for more information and to request Individual/Family or Group tours.

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/visit/>

JEWISH BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

Jewish Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Boston (JBBBS) currently has children and teens waiting for mentors, as well as adults with disabilities waiting to be matched with friends. A commitment of just a few hours each month can grow into a meaningful, long-term relationship for everyone involved. To learn more visit jbbbs.org or email volunteers@jbbbs.org.



Yad Chessed helps Jewish individuals and families who struggle with financial hardship pay their bills and buy food. As a social services agency rooted in the Jewish values of kindness (chesed) and charity (tzedakah), they are committed to helping those in need navigate a path toward financial stability while preserving their privacy and dignity. They provide emergency financial assistance, grocery gift cards and compassionate advice for those trying to make ends meet. Hundreds of families and individuals throughout the state rely on Yad Chessed to provide for their essentials, and even at times, a Jewish burial for a loved one. Members of our community, as well as others in the Jewish community, who need assistance may contact Yad Chessed by phone at 781-487-2693 or by Email at intake@yadchedded.org for a confidential conversation. Questions can be directed to info@yadchedded.org.

Support Yad Chessed - <https://givebutter.com/yadchedded>

GIVING

Please visit our Giving page to send tributes, recognize yahrzeits and make other general donations to support the Walnut Street Synagogue and help us preserve, maintain and secure our 116-year-old building. Donations can be made online or through the mail. Tributes and other donations may be recognized on our Giving Page unless otherwise requested.

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/giving/>

VISIT US ONLINE

Website

<https://walnutstreetsynagogue.org/>

Facebook Page - Walnut Street Synagogue

<https://www.facebook.com/WalnutStreetSynagogue>

Facebook Group - Jews of Chelsea, MA Then and Now

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/ChelseaJews>

The Walnut Street Synagogue is the center for Jewish history, education and culture serving Chelsea, Greater Boston and beyond and is the historic home of Congregation Agudas Sholom. (added to National Register of Historic Places in 1993)



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