



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: July 31, 2008
CONTACT: Joyce Kamen 513.543.8109

Daughter of Iconic American Rabbi to Speak About Her Father's Important Legacy

*Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel rescued during Holocaust by
Cincinnati's Hebrew Union College*

CINCINNATI, OH:--- Dr. Susannah Heschel, Professor of Jewish Studies at Dartmouth University, will present a lecture entitled, *The Spiritual Audacity of My Father—Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel*. Heschel—who was brought to Cincinnati by Hebrew Union College during the Holocaust in the institution's efforts to rescue imperiled German scholars—is widely considered to be one of the greatest American religious figures of the last century. A rabbi, theologian, social activist and mystic, Heschel was as deeply admired by Christians as he was by Jews. The event—co-sponsored by the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives and the American Jewish Committee, Cincinnati Chapter— will take place on **Wednesday evening, September 3, 2008 from 7:00-9:00 p.m.** at The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati International Learning Center at the **Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives** on the campus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, **3101 Clifton Avenue, Cincinnati, Ohio, 45220**. Refreshments will follow.

Dr. Gary P. Zola, Executive Director of The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, will introduce Dr. Heschel and the evening's respondents, who will offer their perspectives on Rabbi Heschel's important legacy. Respondents include U.S. Senator Sherrod Brown, Rabbi David Ellenson, President, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion; and Bishop E. Lynn Brown, Prelate of the Second Episcopal District of the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church.

-MORE-

*Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel marched for civil rights with the
Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. in the late 1960s.*



Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel was born in Poland in 1907 and studied at the University of Berlin. He taught Jewish studies in Germany until he was deported by the Nazis in 1938. Brought to the U.S. by Cincinnati's Hebrew Union College, Heschel taught there—and later at Jewish Theological Seminary. A mystic who focused on the holiness of life, Heschel worked to identify a modern philosophy of religion based on ancient and medieval Judaic traditions, with an emphasis on Judaism's prophetic and mystical aspects. Emphasizing social action as an expression of pious ethical concerns, he played a significant role in the civil-rights movement and in the Christian-Jewish dialogue.

Dr. Susannah Heschel holds the Eli Black Chair in Jewish Studies in the Department of Religion at Dartmouth College. She received her Ph.D. in Religious Studies from the University of Pennsylvania in 1989, and was awarded an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters from Colorado College in 2005.

Her scholarship focuses on Jewish-Christian relations in Germany during the 19th and 20th centuries, and her numerous publications include a prize-winning monograph, *Abraham Geiger and the Jewish Jesus* (University of Chicago Press), which won a National Jewish Book Award, and a forthcoming book, *The Aryan Jesus: Christian Theologians and the Bible in Nazi Germany* (Princeton University Press).

The event is free and open to the public, but seating is limited. Tickets and reservations are required and can be obtained by contacting KC Clarke at 513.487.3000; or via e-mail kclarke@huc.edu.

###