



**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

Honoring Richard Tucker



SEPTEMBER 18, 2016

WATCH FOR DETAILS!

**COVER ARTICLE IN NEWEST ISSUE OF THE AJA JOURNAL
REVEALS THE ROLE LEONARD BERNSTEIN'S SYNAGOGUE
PLAYED IN SHAPING HIS LIFE AND CAREER**

In her article, "Lenny was Family...at Mishkan Tefila," Ann Glazer Niren examines the crucial role played by Leonard Bernstein's synagogue and its leaders on his life and career. Bernstein (1918–1990) rocketed to fame in the 1940s as a multitalented wunderkind: composer, conductor, pianist, lecturer, and Zionist. American Jews, particularly during this time of virulent worldwide antisemitism, rejoiced collectively in the success of one of their own. Numerous scholars have investigated Bernstein's Jewish background and his compositions, but one area that has not received appropriate attention is the importance of Congregation Mishkan Tefila, his childhood synagogue in Boston. Its rabbis, Herman Rubenovitz and Israel Kazis, its cantors, Iszo Glickstein and Gregor Shelkan, and especially its music director, Solomon Braslavsky, all made profound impressions on the young man who would grow up to compose some of America's best-known twentieth-century music.



See the entire newsletter online at
americanjewisharchives.org

**MOMENTS IN
AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY**

In 1913, Carrie Simon founded the Reform movement's National Federation of Temple Sisterhoods (NFTS) which immediately became the largest Jewish women's organization in America. Under Simon's presidency (1913-1919), NFTS began its work on Jewish and humanitarian causes the world over. Today, now renamed "Women of Reform Judaism," the organization continues its philanthropic mission that Simon established over 100 years ago.



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AJA EVENT PHOTO GALLERY

TRAVELS IN AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY—NEW ORLEANS, LA.



Participants in last August's trip to New Orleans visited the historic Touro Synagogue, Temple Sinai, the National WWII Museum, the French Quarter and more while they enjoyed outstanding study sessions on Jewish New Orleans with foremost scholars in American Jewish history. Scholars included Dr. Stuart Rockoff, Dr. Michael Cohen and of course, our own Dr. Gary P. Zola. The trip also included a special community service at the Gates of Prayer to commemorate the anniversary of Hurricane Katrina.

THE RABBI MARC TANNENBAUM DIGITAL COLLECTION



The dedication ceremony for the Rabbi Marc H. Tanenbaum digital collection was held on Sunday, October 11, 2015. Tanenbaum (1925-1992) was a major architect of modern Jewish-Christian dialogue. The event featured a keynote address by Rabbi Michael J. Cook, Ph.D., "Living & Making History: The Marc Tanenbaum Collection & Vatican II's 50th Anniversary." Dr. James Buchanan, of Xavier University, offered reflections on the theme, "Beyond Nostra Aetate: The Challenges of Re-visioning Interfaith Relations for the 21st Century." Dr. Georgette F. Bennett, Founder and President of the Tanenbaum Center for Interreligious Understanding, and Dr. Gary P. Zola, Executive Director of the AJA, also offered brief remarks.

IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF REGINA JONAS



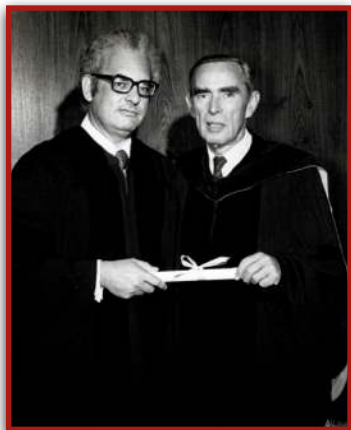
Fraulein Rabbiner Regina Jonas served the Jewish community of Berlin until November 1942, when she was deported to Theresienstadt. On October 14, 1944, Rabbi Jonas was sent to Auschwitz where she was murdered upon her arrival. To honor Rabbi Jonas's memory and heroic legacy, the American Jewish Archives (AJA) invited the first women rabbis from four spiritual movements in American Judaism to come together on October 26, 2015 to share their own pioneering stories. They are: Rabbi Sally Priesand (Reform)—Hebrew Union College, 1972; Rabbi Sandy Sasso (Reconstructionist)—Reconstructionist Rabbinical College, 1974; Rabbi Amy Eilberg (Conservative)—Jewish Theological Seminary, 1985; and Rabba Sara Hurwitz (Orthodox)—ordained by Rabbi Avi Weiss, 2009. (*Far left photo, (L-R): Dr. Gail Reimer, former Executive Director of the Jewish Women's Archive; Rabba Hurwitz, Rabbis Eilberg, Sasso, and Priesand, and Dr. Gary P. Zola.*)

AJA COLLECTIONS SPOTLIGHT

THE RABBI HERBERT A. FRIEDMAN DIGITAL COLLECTION Coming July, 2016 to www.AmericanJewishArchives.org



Herbert Aaronson Friedman (1918-2008)—a prominent rabbi, Zionist, philanthropist, educator, and communal leader— was born in 1918 to Latvian and Lithuanian parents in New Haven, Connecticut. Rabbi Friedman demonstrated this life-long commitment to Zionism beginning with his earliest days in rabbinical school. After graduating from Yale University in 1938, Friedman studied under the esteemed Zionist leader, Rabbi Stephen S. Wise, at the Jewish Institute of Religion in New York City. With Wise as the school's president and Henry Slonimsky as dean, Friedman gained two trusted mentors to guide and nurture his spiritual and intellectual growth as a young rabbi.



As the chief executive of the United Jewish Appeal (a forerunner of the contemporary United Jewish Communities) in the 1950s and 1960s, Friedman implemented fundraising strategies that raised hundreds of millions of dollars for Israel and also became foundational principles of modern American Jewish philanthropy. As a co-founder in 1985 (with Leslie Wexner) of the Wexner Heritage Foundation, Rabbi Friedman expanded his work to include education and training of Jewish leaders.

The Rabbi Herbert A. Friedman Collection, donated to the American Jewish Archives by Rabbi Friedman in 2006, consists of a rich and deep source of documents, audio, and video recordings that reveal a multi-faceted career devoted to justice and the preservation of Jewish life. The entire collection will be available online beginning in July, 2016.



CONTACT US • 513.221.1875

Dr. Gary P. Zola
Executive Director

Lisa B. Frankel
Dir. of Educational Outreach & Administration

Dr. Dana Herman
Managing Editor & Academic Associate

Kevin Proffitt
Senior Archivist for Research and Collections
Director/Fellowship Programs

Elisa Ho
Archivist and Special Projects Coordinator

Amy Malventano
Associate Archivist

Nancy Hersh Dowlin
Executive Assistant

Phil Reekers
Graphic Design Specialist

Al Simandl
Building Maintenance &
Electronic Classroom Tech

Sue Boyce
Administrative Assistant

DR. ZOLA TO RECEIVE HUMANITARIAN AWARD

On Saturday, April 16, 2016, our own Dr. Gary P. Zola will be honored with “Beacon of Light Humanitarian Award” at the Lighthouse Youth Services (LYS) awards gala. The award recognizes leadership and service, community impact, and involvement with children, youth and families. The 2016 honorees also include Iva Brown, Ryan Messer, Jimmy Musuraca, and Edgar Smith.



Lighthouse Youth Services serves 6,000 children, youth and families each year. The Lighthouse mission is to advance the dignity and well-being of children, youth and families in need. LYS encourages good citizenship, responsible behavior and self-reliance. Lighthouse is nationally recognized as an innovator in services for families in crisis, for homeless youth and young adults, for youth learning to become self-sufficient, and in foster care for abused or neglected children.

FOR MORE INFORMATION ON THE GALA EVENT, VISIT:

LYS.ORG



Become an AJA Facebook Fan!

Each week, the American Jewish Archives' Facebook page brings you “Tuesday’s Treasure”—highlighting documents from our collections and significant moments in American Jewish history. You can also learn about the AJA’s upcoming community events, educational programs, Fellowship seminars and interesting insights about all things relating to the study and preservation of American Jewish History. So log on and learn!



History Matters

The Jacob Rader Marcus Center
of the American Jewish Archives
3101 Clifton Avenue
Cincinnati, Ohio 45220



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES