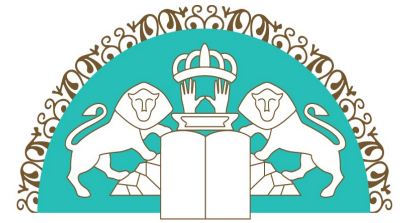


Jewish Museum & Cultural Center

Fall / 2025



Jewish Museum & Cultural Center

Chevra T'helim Synagogue
1918-1986



L'shana Tova. May this new year be a year of promise for us all. May we experience a renewed sense of vitality within ourselves and the Jewish community. The Jewish Museum and Cultural Center affords one this opportunity by providing programs of cultural interest. You can bond with others in an intimate and sacred setting.

Attendance at our programs has increased this year. We had a very successful summer music series which included The Jae Sinnett Trio, Bagels, and Fraylox, Trio Niche and Francesca Hurst.

We are continuing to sell daffodil bulbs which can be purchased for \$1 a bulb at www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org. Four years ago, we partnered with the international Daffodil Project based in Atlanta, GA, and introduced this project to Hampton Roads. The project's goal is to plant 1,500,000 daffodils worldwide representing the 1,500,000 children who perished in the Holocaust and all children who are victims of humanitarian crisis. The daffodils are gorgeous and come from Amsterdam. There are over 7,000 daffodils planted on the grounds of the museum. If planting bulbs isn't your thing, you can donate to support the maintenance of the garden. To further beautify the area where the daffodils are planted, we started a fundraising project called the Paver Project. Pavers can be purchased for \$144 each to memorialize or commemorate family members or friends. This is a particularly special way to memorialize those whose family members lived in Portsmouth all their lives.

We have five films lined up for our Saturdays at Seven Cinema Series in January of 2026.
Jan. 3rd—8-1/2 (a 1963 avant-garde comedy-drama film co-written and directed by Federico Fellini);
Jan. 10th—*Defiance* (a 2008 American war film directed by Edward Zwick, and starring Daniel Craig);
Jan. 17: *The Band's Visit* (a 2007 film about eight Egyptian musicians who comprise the Alexandria Ceremonial Police Orchestra, and arrive by mistake in a small town in Israel's Negev Desert);
Jan. 24: *Cast a Giant Shadow* (a 1966 American action film based on the life of Colonel Mickey Marcus, starring Kirk Douglas, Senta Berger, Yul Brynner, and John Wayne)
Jan. 31: *Woman in Gold* (a 2015 film and true story about an elderly Jewish refugee, Maria Altmann, and her journey to retrieve family possessions seized by the Nazis, among them Gustav Klimt's famous painting, 'The Lady in Gold').

We are tremendously enthusiastic and excited about some new programming initiated by The Visual Arts Committee of the museum working in collaboration with the UJFT and the Chrysler Museum. On December 6, 2025 the *LEGACY 2025: Hampton Roads Jewish Artists of the Past* exhibition will be held at the Virginia Beach JCC on December 6, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. followed by a reception. There will be two other lectures in conjunction with this event. Please read further in this newsletter to learn about these three wonderful events. We look forward to seeing you at these events and hope you will enjoy each and everyone.

Karen M. Plotnick

President, Friends of Chevra T'helim, Inc
DBA The Jewish Museum and Cultural Center

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Mission Statement:

"To present an environment where visitors and the community can celebrate and learn about Jewish history, faith, and culture."

BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF CHEVRA T'HELM, INC.

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Francesca Hurst , July 30, 2025

Our Wonderful Wednesdays Summer Music Series was a grand success. We increased attendance by 48% over last year. Our Music Committee will meet in mid November. Keep a look out for our 2026 Series announcement later this year. We are expanding to a **five** concert series.

We thank for Helen G. Gifford Foundation and Virginia Commission for the Arts for their support this season.



Jae Sinnett Trio, August 13, 2025



2/3 of Trio Niche and their Roadies, August 6, 2025

A Reminder about the “*Rivin Circle*”

National statistics show that less than 8 percent of Americans ever think to put a gift for charity in their wills or other estate plans. You can plan a legacy gift which will offer thoughtful and creative ways to prepare for the future, while generously supporting the Jewish Museum and Cultural Center (JMCC) in Portsmouth, VA. Join the “*Rivin Circle*,” and leave a legacy that reflects your passion and remains an inspiration for generations to come.

Your gift can support any aspect of the JMCC—including:

- Curatorial research and exhibition development
- New program development
- Region-wide educational initiatives
- Capital improvements to our existing historic structure

Preserving the past for
our future.

Currently the Rivin Circle has 6 members
who have committed to the future!



Jewish Museum and Cultural Center

**BE A PART OF THE WORLDWIDE
DAFFODIL PROJECT BY PLANTING DAFFODILS IN YOUR
GARDEN OR DONATING BULBS TO A COMMUNITY GARDEN!
NOW IS THE TIME TO PURCHASE AND PLANT YOUR
DAFFODILS - \$1 FOR 1 BULB**



The Daffodil Project is a worldwide effort to memorialize the 1.5 million children who perished in the Holocaust

and

in support of children everywhere suffering humanitarian crises today.



To order bulbs, make a donation, or purchase a paver for the JMCC community garden, please visit www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org or fill out and mail the order form below to JMCC, 607 Effingham Street, Portsmouth, VA 23704

NAME _____

BULBS _____ X \$1.00 TOTAL _____

Please accept my donation in the amount of \$_____.

**BULB PICK-UP DAY
SUNDAY, 19 OCTOBER
10 AM - 2 PM**

For more information and to RSVP
email jmccportsmouth@gmail.com OR
call 757-391-9266



**Jewish Museum & Cultural Center
607 Effingham Street, Portsmouth**

This event is **FREE** and open to everyone.
Donations are always welcome and appreciated.

Contributions July 1, 2025 – September 30, 2025

GENERAL

Anonymous
Brad Bangel
Robert Bradley
Herbert Brewer
Stephen Caplan

Howard Horowitz
Stephen Leon
Ira Steingold
Laura Ungerman

The Daffodil Project
Marc Solberg

As we expand The Daffodil Project, we are offering pavers for sale. They can be inscribed as a memorial or a celebration of life. The goal is to sell 100 pavers, providing a 10' x 10" area to use for outdoor programs. To date we have sold 38!

IN HONORARIUM

HERBERT BREWER'S 90TH BIRTHDAY

David Joel Brewer
Helen Brewer Glassman and David Glassman

KAREN PLOTNICK

Linda Laibstain

IN MEMORIAM

SUSAN BREWER

Minette Cooper
Helen Glassman
Karen Plotnick

KURT PHILLIP CAMINER

Vicki Caminer

LEGACY 2025

Jack Frieden
Hartung Gallery
Ed Lazon
David Leon
Stephen Leon
Cat Lineberry
Shelly Parks
Karen Plotnick
Rick Rivin
Joan Rose
Liz Zetlin

**The Jewish Museum
and
Cultural Center**
is a 501 (C) (3) non-
profit organization and
contributions are
tax-exempt.

Details can be located at this website:

[Donate to Friends of Chevra
Thelim d/b/a Jewish Museum](#)



[Brick Fundraising Campaign](#)





Jewish Museum & Cultural Center

RUMMAGE

SALE

**SUNDAY
OCTOBER 19,
2025
10 AM TO 2 PM**



**Jewish Museum & Cultural Center
607 Effingham Street, Portsmouth**

This event is open to everyone.
For more information visit
www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.com

LEGACY 2025

Jewish Artists of the Past

Legacy 25 Dor V'Dor From Generation to Generation – The Hampton Roads Journey by Karen Plotnick

Do not miss, *Legacy 2025 Hampton Roads Jewish Artists of the Past* comes to the Simon Family Jewish Community Center on December 6, 2025, at 6:30 p.m. This event is sponsored by The Jewish Museum and Cultural Center of Portsmouth, Va., The United Jewish Federation of Tidewater, and the Chrysler Museum.

Legacy 2025 will feature art of over 20 Hampton Roads Jewish artists who are no longer living. Three pieces of art by each individual artist will be on display. Family members or someone familiar with each artist will speak on each artist's behalf.

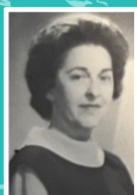
Many of you may have grown up knowing some of these artists. They may have been the parents of some of your contemporaries. Some of our local synagogues house their art. This exhibit affords the rare opportunity to become acquainted with local Jewish artists of the past whom you may never have heard of.

This is a first of its kind exhibition which will hopefully inspire other Jewish communities within our state and throughout the United States to emulate.

Mia Laufer, PhD, the Irene Leach curator of European Art for the Chrysler Museum will speak at the Jewish Museum and Cultural Center on Sunday November 16, 2025, at 4:00 p.m. Her lecture will be a segway into the December 6th *Legacy 2025* Gala entitled *A Sneak Peek at Legacy 2025: Hampton Roads Jewish Artists of the Past*. A reception will follow the lecture. Tickets are \$18. For more information and to purchase tickets go to www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org or call 757-391-9266.

Samantha Baskind, PhD., distinguished professor of Art History at Cleveland State University will speak at The Chrysler Museum on Sunday December 14 at 2:00 p.m. - *The Remarkable Journey of Moses Ezekiel's Norfolk Botanical Garden Artist Statues*. Sir Moses Jacob Ezekiel was a prolific yet controversial 19th century Jewish Sculptor from Richmond, Virginia. A reception will follow this lecture. Tickets are \$18. For more information and to purchase tickets go to

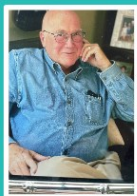
www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org or call 757-391-9266.



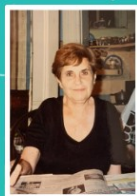
YETTA BORNSTEIN



TELSA LEON



STAN GLASOFER



SYLVIA SHLIOM



RUTH UNGAR



RETHA SEIDEL



LINDA GISSIN



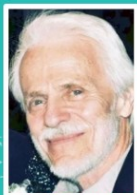
LOUIS MOREWITZ



INGER PINCUS



GRETA JAGER



VICTOR PICKETT



FAY ZETLIN



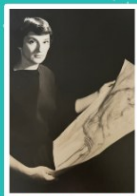
ELLIOT BERNSTEIN



SARAH DEYONG



ELSA GERST



EDNA SARA LAZAROV



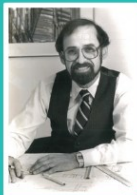
RUTH ROSE



ELISE SIMON



ARLENE KESSLER



LAZLO ARANYI

LEGACY 2025
JEWISH ARTISTS OF THE PAST



Jewish Museum & Cultural Center Presents
L'Dor v' Dor
The Hampton Roads Jewish Art Journey

LEGACY 2025

HAMPTON ROADS JEWISH ARTISTS OF THE PAST



Guest Speaker: Mia Laufer, Ph.D.

Hampton Roads Jewish Artists of the Past in Context

Join Mia Laufer, Ph.D., Irene Leache Curator of European Art at the Chrysler Museum of Art for a sneak peek at the exhibition *Legacy 2025: Jewish Artists of the Past*. Drawing on the four main themes of the exhibition—Torah, Jewish Culture, Contemporary Aesthetics, and Personal Expression—Laufer will discuss the work in the exhibition and place it into the context of art practice in late 20th century American art.

Before joining the Chrysler Museum of Art in January 2025, Mia Laufer, Ph.D. held curatorial positions at the Des Moines Art Center and the Minnesota Museum of American Art. Laufer holds a BA in Art History from New York University and an MA and Ph.D. in Art History and Archaeology from Washington University in St. Louis. Her research often explores the relationship between modern art and Jewish identity.

Upcoming LEGACY 2025 Events:

Dec. 6	6:30 PM	Art Gallery Opening & Reception at the JCC - \$36
Dec. 14	2:00 PM	Guest Speaker Samantha Baskind, Ph.D. - \$18 <i>The Remarkable Journey of Moses Ezekiel's Norfolk Botanical Garden Artist Statues</i>

**SUNDAY
NOVEMBER 16
4:00 PM**

**Jewish Museum & Cultural Center
607 Effingham Street, Portsmouth**

Tickets are \$18. For more information and to purchase tickets go to www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org OR call 757-391-9266.

This lecture is presented in partnership with Arts + Ideas at the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater and with support from:



Jewish Museum & Cultural Center

607 Effingham Street
Portsmouth, VA 23704
Phone: 757-391-9266

Visit our website:

www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org



Non-Profit
Organization
U. S. Postage
PAID
Norfolk, Virginia
Permit No. 175

Upcoming Events—SAVE THE DATE!



October 26, 2025, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm—Pick Up Bulb Sales

October 26, 2025, 10:00 am - 2:00 pm—Rummage Sale Part 2

November 16, 2025, 4:00 pm—Mia Laufer Lecture

December 6, 2025, 6:00 pm—Exhibit Opening @ JCC

December 14, 2025, 2:00 pm—Samantha Baskind Lecture @ Chrysler Museum

December 21, 2025, 11:00 am—Hanukkah Happening



Jewish Museum & Cultural Center Presents
L'Dor v' Dor
The Hampton Roads Jewish Art Journey

LEGACY 2025

HAMPTON ROADS JEWISH ARTISTS OF THE PAST



Guest Speaker: Samantha Baskind, Ph.D.

The Remarkable Journey of Moses Ezekiel's Norfolk Botanical Garden Artist Statues

In 1877, Virginia-born artist Moses Ezekiel received the prestigious commission to carve eleven larger-than-life sculptures of some of the world's best-known artists to decorate the niches of the first building established in the United States with the express purpose to serve as an art museum. But less than two decades later, those statues were unceremoniously removed from the building and have since had a remarkable, peripatetic afterlife. Ezekiel's sculptures peppered the land around a swimming pool at a multimillionaire socialite's estate before they journeyed to an art dealer, then private hands, and for a time one statue was on display at a major American art museum. Now reunited, since the 1970s all eleven statues brush against flora and live among fauna at the Norfolk Botanical Garden.

Samantha Baskind, Ph.D. is Distinguished Professor of Art History at Cleveland State University. She is the author or editor of seven books, most recently *Moses Jacob Ezekiel: Jewish, Confederate, Expatriate Sculptor*. She served as editor for U.S. art for the 22-volume revised edition of the *Encyclopedia Judaica* (2006) and is currently editor of Penn State University Press's book series: "Dimyonot: Jews and the Cultural Imagination."

**SUNDAY
DECEMBER 14
2:00 PM**

**Chrysler Museum of Art
One Memorial Place, Norfolk VA 23510**

Tickets are \$18. For more information and to purchase tickets go to www.jewishmuseumportsmouth.org OR call 757-391-9266.

This lecture is presented in partnership with Arts + Ideas at the United Jewish Federation of Tidewater and with support from:

