



# NEWS FROM THE JEA FOR ITS MEMBERS

# בינינו

OCTOBER, 2009 / TISHREI, 5770

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Dear Colleague,

***Moadim I'simcha!*** We hope that you have been enjoying the *chagim*. It is not too late to wish you a happy and healthy year.

Welcome to our first electronic version of ***Beineinu!*** We continue to upgrade our administrative procedures and communications in an effort to better serve you, our members. Going to e-newsletters will help us communicate with you more quickly and efficiently. It also helps us to *go green*, using less paper and saving on postage.

In the months ahead we will experiment a bit with the layout, content and structure of ***Beineinu*** and all of our communications. We invite your ideas, suggestions and feedback on our new format. And if, for some reason, you prefer to receive your newsletters the old-fashioned way, just let us know and we'll be glad to drop a hard copy in the mail.

## Quick Links

[JEA 2010 Washington Conference](#)

[JEA Membership Application](#)

[Sponsorship Opportunities](#)

## JEA Goes To Washington

The **58th Annual JEA Conference** will be held from **Sunday January 24 thru Wednesday, January 27, 2010** at the **Inn and Conference Center by Marriott** in College Park, Maryland. The keynote speaker will be **Professor Jack Wertheimer**, reporting on his recent study "Schools That Work."



Additional presenters will include **Rabbi Jack Moline**, **Rabbi Stuart Weinblatt** and **Danny Siegel** speaking on political advocacy, mitzvot and tzedakah. Special sessions will be offered at the US Holocaust Memorial Museum and there will be touring of other sites of interest in Washington, DC.

We will soon be sending you a more detailed brochure and registration form. *Check out our [Conference Page](#) and watch for more details coming soon!*

## Membership Dues

We thank our many members who have already sent in their dues for the 2009-10 school year. JEA counts upon

## Bracha Cards

JEA offers a beautiful series of Bracha Cards that can be used to mark happy occasions or commemorate loved ones. A packet of 5 cards is available for \$25. Please contact the JEA office to order your cards.

## Our Mission

The mission of the Jewish Educators Assembly is to promote excellence among educators committed to Conservative Jewish education by advancing professionalism, encouraging leadership, pursuing lifelong learning and building community.

## Our Vision

The JEA will serve educators in their efforts to strengthen the Conservative Movement and inspire greater Jewish learning. JEA will be the leading advocate for the welfare of the Jewish educator and for best practices in Jewish education.

## Our Values

The JEA's mission is anchored in and informed by the core values, practices and principles of Conservative Judaism. These

membership dues in order to carry out our important work. Please note that dues are seven-tenths of one percent (.7%) of the salary that you are paid. We count upon each member to give an accurate and honest calculation of their dues. We request that dues be submitted by November 1, 2009. Please call the JEA office if you have any questions about your membership category or dues calculation.

We also call to your attention the co-operative dues arrangements we have made for those who may be members of both JEA and the RA or the CA:

### Rabbinical Assembly Members:

By agreement with the RA, those Rabbis who serve primarily in education roles may deduct the full amount of their JEA dues from their RA dues.

### Cantors Assembly Members:

By agreement with the CA, those Cantors who also serve in education roles may

a) Reduce their JEA dues by 20%  
AND

b) Deduct that same 20% of their JEA dues from their CA dues.

i.e. if your JEA dues are \$500, you may deduct 20% and pay the JEA \$400 AND deduct \$100 from your CA dues.

For further information or to download a Membership Application please visit our [Membership Page](#).

## Membership Outreach

We count upon all of our members to be part of our "Membership Outreach Committee." If you know of friends or colleagues in neighboring schools who are not members of JEA, please invite them to join our organization. You may also forward their names



to our office and we will be glad to contact them as well. In particular, we encourage you to reach out to educators who are in new positions and might especially benefit from the help and support of JEA.

## New Year... New Positions

Mazal tov to all of our JEA members who are starting this year in new leadership positions in our schools. This is an exciting time and we wish you well!

Shirley Benatar	Tifereth Israel, Columbus, OH
Lita Cohen	B'nai Jeshurun, Pepper Pike, OH
Rose Durbin	Congregation Ohav Shalom, Albany, NY
Peter Eckstein	Temple Beth David, Palm Beach Gardens, FL
Helena Eilenberg	Merrick Jewish Center, Merrick, NY

include: spirited and honest intellectual exploration of sacred texts, fluency in Hebrew, joyful participation in Jewish holidays and rituals, a deep commitment to Israel and the Jewish People, and equal access to all aspects of Jewish life for both boys and girls. In addition, as a professional association, we embrace academic excellence, innovation, collaboration, professionalism, lifelong learning and integrity.

Jessi Fainsztein Congregation Beth Am, San Diego, CA  
Hilary Greenberg Congregation B'nai Israel,  
Basking Ridge, NJ  
Karen Kosowski Beth El Synagogue, Durham, NC  
Shira Ornstein East Meadow Jewish Center,  
East Meadow, NY  
Mallory Probert East Brunswick Jewish Center,  
East Brunswick, NJ  
Jennifer Weiss Temple Beth Sholom, Las Vegas, NV

Mazal tov to our members who are starting new leadership positions in synagogues, day schools and agencies.

Dr. David Ackerman - Director of Educational Services, JCC Association, New York, NY

William Cohen - Head of School, Kadima Hebrew Academy, West Hills, CA

## Report From Pearlstone

Your JEA Board spent 3 days this summer at the Pearlstone Conference Center in Baltimore conducting JEA business and engaging in long-range planning to strengthen our organization and to provide additional services to you, our members. The board approved a new 3-year strategic plan that we will be sharing with you shortly. The plan includes a new committee focused on member services and the increased use of technology as exemplified by this *Beineinu*.



The board discussed matters relating to Placement, Professional Standards and Personnel Policies. They also approved our 2009-10 budget and dealt with the ongoing needs for fundraising and development. As always, the group engaged in Torah study together. They also received a policy briefing from AIPAC and took part in group-building exercises on Pearlstone's *Kayam* Farm.

## Journal of Jewish Education

The Journal of Jewish Education is the premier professional resource for our field. Articles feature the latest trends and thinking in educational research, classroom management, learning styles, curriculum development and more. JEA has made a special arrangement to offer the Journal of Jewish Education to our members at a special discounted price as follows:



follows:

\$45 per year for printed copy only  
\$53 per year for printed copy and online edition

The Journal is published 4 times a year and the subscription year begins on January 1. To subscribe to the Journal please forward your payment to the JEA office by December 1st indicating print only or print and online. Please provide us with your preferred

postal and e-mail addresses.

Click here for more information about the [Journal of Jewish Education](#).

## JEA Fund for Educational Research & Development

The JEA Fund for Educational Research and Development provides grants to JEA members to enable them to implement significant projects in the field of Jewish education. Types of programs that are considered for awards include curriculum projects, evaluation instruments, creative arts programs, enrichment programs, and the development of computer and audio-visual materials as well as research projects.

Recent awards of \$1,000 each were made to Beth Copelovitch of Beth Israel Center, Madison, WI for her proposal of a 3-year Spiral Music Curriculum for grades K-2 and to Rebecca Starr for a leadership training program, The ABC's of Ethical Leadership.



Research grants will be judged chiefly by the following criteria:

1. Projected contribution of project to the field of Jewish education.
2. Replicability or usefulness of project beyond the home community.
3. Likelihood that funding to make this project possible would not be available from other sources.
4. Uniqueness of project.
5. Potential impact of project upon advancing the roles of educators and teachers, and the way in which they are perceived in the Jewish community.
6. The likelihood that the JEA funding will significantly contribute towards the realization of this project.

Applications for funding of projects to be implemented during the 2010-11 school year are now being accepted. They should be sent in the form of a letter and should describe in detail the project, suggest its importance to the field of Jewish education, state the amount of funding requested and how these funds will be used. All letters must be received by **December 1st, 2009** and should be sent to:

Marshall Kupchan, Chairman  
JEA Research & Development Fund Committee  
PO Box 413  
Cedarhurst, NY 11516

## In the JEA Family

There have been many changes and life cycle events that took place during the summer. Please inform the JEA office so that we may share your news.



### **MAZEL TOV TO:**

Rabbis Scott & Amy Bolton on the birth of their son Yona  
Jo-Anne Tucker Zemlak on the birth of granddaughter Sami  
Joe and Sue Freedman on the marriages of daughters Naomi  
and Aviva

Yaffa and Jack Fuchs on the birth of a new grandson  
Sandy Peck Borowsky on the engagement of her daughter  
Jamie to Matt Saunders

Marcia and Tom Kagedan on the birth of their first grandchild  
Natan Li'am Fleischman

Rabbi Stuart Seltzer for receiving a 2009 Covenant Award  
Beverly Schwartz Katsh and Etan Katsh on the birth of their first  
grandchildren, twin girls Abigail and Sarah



### **REFUAH SHLEIMAH - GET WELL TO:**

Sol Turk



### **NACHAMU, NACHAMU AMI - CONDOLENCES TO:**

Shanee Epstein and Moshe Weidenfeld on the tragic passing of  
their son Ezra

Steve Freedman on the passing of his father

Ron Koas and Miriam Eckstein Koas on the passing of Miriam's  
mother Adele Eckstein

Beverly and Stephen Hazelkorn on the passing of Stephen's  
mother Helen

Yaffa Fuchs on the passing of her mother

Alicia and Pablo Gejman on the passing of Pablo's father  
Marcos Gejman  
Barbara Weisman on the passing of her father

*Beineinu* is published by the Jewish Educators Assembly,  
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