



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Members and Friends of the ACJS,

For those of you who were unable to make this past year's conference at Brock University in St. Catharines, Ontario, I would like to report that we had a wonderful event. Adam Fuerstenberg, Professor Emeritus at Ryerson University, was the recipient of the Louis Rosenberg Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award for his selfless devotion to Jewish and Yiddish Canadian studies. Additionally, SJ Kerr-Lapsley was awarded the Marcia Koven Award for Best Student Paper, and Allie Cuperfain received honourable mention. Their papers, "Roots, Routes and Bridges: An Introduction to the Involvement of Holocaust Survivors in Holocaust Education in Vancouver" and "The Identities of Toronto: An Analysis of UJA's Annual Campaign 2012," respectively, were exceptional.

It was also at the conference in St. Catharines that I was newly elected President, following nine distinguished years of service by Randal Schnoor. On behalf of our entire organization I am truly grateful for the incredible work he has done for Canadian Jewish studies. He has left me some big shoes to fill, and I look forward to the challenge. I am also greatly indebted to the other officers (Rebecca Margolis, Emily Lam, and Janice Rosen) and Executive Committee chairs (David Koffman, Stephanie Schwartz, SJ Kerr-Lapsley, Dara Solomon, Steven Lapidus, Ira Robinson, Bernie Katz, and Jerry Silver) for all they do to make ACJS function so well.

As my first step in becoming the new president, this fall I had a survey designed and implemented in order to learn from our membership our strengths, weaknesses, and opportunities. The survey design and execution could not have been accomplished without the incredible help of Allie Cuperfain and SJ Kerr-Lapsley, in addition to the advice of many others. For

this I am very appreciative. We hope to have results from the survey available in the spring 2015 edition of the Bulletin. For purposes of strategic planning, I hope that we can discuss what has been learned from the survey at the next Open Board Meeting, to be held at the 2015 conference at the University of Ottawa. Whether or not you participated in the survey, I would like to hear from you personally about how ACJS could be improved (bstiefel@yahoo.com).

Moreover, I could use your help in strengthening our organization. For instance, invite friends or colleagues who have never attended our conference before. Even better yet, if they are exploring relevant topics, please encourage them to submit a proposal to present a paper. If several people from the same place are interested, consider a bulk institutional membership. We also have a fantastic scholarly journal, *Canadian Jewish Studies*, and *Bulletin*. Please consider publishing your scholarship or sharing your news with us, as well as encouraging others to do so.

Lastly, please consider ACJS as your charity of preference since donations are tax-deductible (see <http://acjs-aejc.ca/membership>). Your financial contributions help support numerous Canadian Jewish studies scholarly activities.

Thank you, and I look forward to seeing you in Ottawa on Sunday, May 31, to Tuesday, June 2, 2015. □



Barry Stiefel

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About Us

The Association for Canadian Jewish Studies/l'Association des études juives canadiennes was founded in 1976 as the Canadian Jewish Historical Society/Société d'histoire juive canadienne. Its goal is to encourage scholarly research in Canadian Jewish history, life and culture through academic disciplines.

It is a national association with headquarters in Montreal and is affiliated with historical organizations and institutions throughout Canada.

This newsletter is written for organizations and individuals with a particular interest in Canadian Jewish studies.

Comments, news, announcements, and reviews can be emailed to Sarah Jane Kerr-Lapsley at sjkerrlapsley@gmail.com.

The ACJS website:
www.acjs-aejc.ca.

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Message from the Editor

I am very excited to take on the role of Bulletin Editor for the ACJS/AEJC! It is a pleasure to get to help share the wonderful projects, research, honours, books and activities in Canadian Jewish studies across the country. Many thanks to Susan Landau-Chark for her guidance through the transition; her advice and support have been invaluable.

I am absolutely indebted to Shirley Brodt, whose very hard work, dedication and editing are the reason you hold this bulletin in your hands or see it on your screen. Thank you, Shirley — we could not have done it without you!

Sincerely,

Sarah Jane (SJ) Kerr-Lapsley
ACJS Bulletin Editor

NOTICE TO MEMBERS

All membership renewals to the Association can now be made online using Paypal. Simply go to www.acjs-aejc.ca to renew. Also, if you have a change of address, email or phone number, please let us know by emailing Janice Rosen at acjssecretary@gmail.com.

THANK YOU to the following institutions for their support of the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies: Concordia Institute for Canadian Jewish Studies; Israel and Golda Koschitzky Centre for Jewish Studies (York University); Max and Tessie Zelikovitz Centre for Jewish Studies (Carleton University); and Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program (University of Ottawa).





THE ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN JEWISH STUDIES (ACJS) will be holding its 39th annual conference from Sunday, May 31, through Tuesday, June 2, 2015, at the University of Ottawa as part of the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences. The conference provides a platform for original scholarly research in Canadian Jewish history, life and culture.

Individuals are invited to send proposals for learned paper presentations 20 minutes in length. Potential presenters are asked to submit a paper proposal by **January 5, 2015**.

The paper proposal comprises two parts: (1) a 400-word abstract formulated to clearly and concisely state the main argument of the scholarly paper and indicate how it will contribute to existing scholarship in the field of Canadian Jewish studies; (2) a bibliography of relevant sources. The abstract should be sent via email as a .doc or .rtf attachment, double-spaced in Times New Roman font, with the paper title clearly indicated at the top. Because proposals undergo blind review, the name, affiliation, address, telephone number and email of the potential presenter as well as the title of the proposed paper should appear in the body of the email only (and not in the attached proposal). After the process of anonymous peer review, communication with presenters will occur by **February 10, 2015**.

All presenters must be paid 2015 members of ACJS at the time that proposals are submitted. Proposals from individuals who are not 2015 members of ACJS will not be reviewed. Membership information for ACJS can be found on our website, www.acjs-acjc.ca.

Partial financial support to defray travel and accommodations costs is available for presenters who live more than 100 km from Ottawa and have been members of

the ACJS for at least one full calendar year prior to January 2015 (i.e. presenters must be in good standing for both 2014 and 2015 to be eligible for support). University students are exempt from the 2014 membership requirement and are also eligible for additional top-up support.

In all cases, because ACJS support funds are limited, presenters (including students) are expected to apply first to their host institutions for whatever funds may be available to them locally. Applications for financial support, which will be sent to eligible presenters along with the notice of acceptance of their paper proposal, will be due on March 6, with results to be communicated by March 27.

The best student paper of the conference will be granted the Marcia Koven Award, which is accompanied by a cash prize. The award, based on an oral presentation of the paper, will be granted on the basis of the paper's scholarly quality and its contribution to Canadian Jewish studies.

As the ACJS annual conference is part of the larger national conference body called the Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, ACJS conference participants whose paper proposals have been accepted must register in advance for the Congress by paying the required fees for both the general Congress registration and the ACJS conference registration. Early-bird registration rates are available before April 1, 2015. Participants will receive details on registration from the Program Chair and are also invited to consult the [Congress website](#) for details. Please note that presentations from individuals who have not pre-registered for the Congress and ACJS Conference will not be included in the Conference Program.

Please email proposals to Prof. Rebecca Margolis, Program Chair, at rmargoli@uottawa.ca. □



L'ASSOCIATION DES ÉTUDES JUIVES CANADIENNES (AÉJC) tiendra sa 39^{ième} réunion annuelle du 31 mai au 2 juin 2015 à l'Université Ottawa en collaboration avec la Fédération canadienne des sciences humaines.

Le congrès sert à présenter les nouvelles recherches relatives à l'histoire, la vie et la culture de la communauté canadienne juive. Celles et ceux qui désirent faire une communication de 20 minutes touchant un aspect de la culture canadienne juive sont priés de soumettre une proposition de communication détaillée (400 mots) avant le **5 janvier 2015**.

La proposition, qui sera évaluée dans l'anonymat, doit comprendre le thème principal de la communication ainsi que les références bibliographiques. Les membres du comité communiqueront avec les participants avant le **10 février 2015**.

Tous les conférenciers doivent être membres de l'AÉJC en 2015 lorsque les propositions seront soumises. Les propositions provenant des personnes qui ne sont pas membres de l'AÉJC en 2015 ne seront pas considérées. Des informations sur l'adhésion à l'AÉJC sont disponibles sur notre site web, www.acjs-aejc.ca.

De l'aide financière pour défrayer partiellement le coût du voyage est disponible pour tous les conférenciers qui habitent à moins de 100 km d'Ottawa et qui sont membres de

l'AÉJC depuis au moins un an (cette condition ne s'applique pas aux étudiants du 1er, 2e ou 3e cycle). La demande d'aide financière doit être soumise le 6 mars, et les résultats seront communiqués avant le 27 mars.

Le prix Marcia Koven, lequel comprend une récompense en argent, sera décerné à la meilleure communication présentée par un étudiant lors de la conférence. La présentation orale de la communication sera évaluée en fonction de sa valeur scientifique et de sa contribution au domaine des études juives canadiennes.

Étant donné que la conférence annuelle de l'AÉJC fait partie du Congrès des sciences humaines, tous les participants de la conférence de l'AÉJC doivent s'inscrire à l'avance à ce congrès. Ils doivent payer les frais d'inscription générale du Congrès ainsi que le frais de conférence de l'AÉJC. L'inscription à tarif préférentiel est disponible avant le 1er avril 2015. Pour de plus amples informations, consultez le [site web](#).

Les présentations des personnes qui ne se sont pas inscrites au Congrès et à la Conférence ne seront pas incluses dans le programme du conférence.

Veillez faire parvenir vos projets de communication à Rebecca Margolis, coordonnatrice, par courriel, rmargoli@uottawa.ca. □

The ACJS would like to extend a thank-you to our sponsors:



**CANADIAN JEWISH CONGRESS CHARITIES COMMITTEE
NATIONAL ARCHIVES**



Faces and voices from the Old Country...

These family photographs and letters from pre-WWII Lithuania testify to pre-emigration memories of Eastern Europe and the lives lived by some of the relatives whom Canadian Jews left behind when immigrating to Canada in the early 1930s. The photos are samples of the images and Yiddish letters — with attached translations — that can be studied in the Bloomstone-Zlatis Archive at Canadian Jewish Congress Charities Committee National Archives. (For a more detailed description, see www.cjhn.ca/en/permalink/cjhn280.) This collection was recently featured in an article in the *Canadian Jewish News* (<http://cjnews.com/opinions/perspectives-forwarding-past>).



Right to left: Dovid Itzik Bloomstone, grandfather of Shirley/Sarah (the donor of this collection), his aunt Iteh, and his cousin. Photo taken circa 1890 in Lithuania.



Zlatis children in Lithuania, 1920. In back: Pauline (mother of Shirley and Frank). In front, left to right: Malka, Jack, and Chana Layka.



This picture is thought to be of Pauline and Jack's mother, Bayleh Zlatis, with baby Pessl/Pauline, circa 1905.



Jack Zlatis (at right) in 1932.



Pauline Zlatis (at left) in 1920.



Photos taken in 1930s Lithuania.



In this letter from November 1936, mother Bayleh Zlatis writes from Lithuania to children Pauline and Jack in Montreal: She apologizes that her poor health delayed her from writing, applauds her son's studies, and describes economic and social conditions in her town.





by *Ira Robinson*
Director

*I am pleased to present
the Concordia University
Institute for Canadian Jewish
Studies program for the
2014-2015 academic year.*

*It began on Friday,
September 12, with the first
Canadian Jewish Studies
Forum of the year.*

*Abigail Hirsch presented her
documentary film "Yiddish:
A Tale of Survival," which
explores the role of theatre
in preserving Yiddish since
the Holocaust and highlights
the history of the Dora
Wasserman Yiddish Theatre
in Montreal.*

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY INSTITUTE FOR CANADIAN JEWISH STUDIES *2014-2015 Program*

The Canadian Jewish Studies Forum continues with the following presentations:

October 24

Ira Robinson, "Perspectives on Antisemitism in Twenty-First Century Canada"

November 14

Meir Amor, "The Non-Obvious Jewish Roots of Occidental Citizenship"

December 12

Pierre Anctil, « L'évêque, le maire et les Juifs; la crise de la synagogue de Québec, 1941-44 »

January 9

Sharon Gubbay Helfer, "The Jewish Community of Sherbrooke, Quebec"

March 13

Chantal Ringuet, « Transmissions et héritages de la Shoah aujourd'hui »

Conferences/Colloques

The Institute is co-sponsor of the following conferences this semester:

October 7-8

« Migrations juives contemporaines, circulations et ancrages » [à UQAM]
www.hfgm.uqam.ca

October 26

"The Future of the Past: The Jewish Public Library of Montreal, 1914-2014"
(at the Jewish Public Library) <http://cjs.concordia.ca/events/index.php>

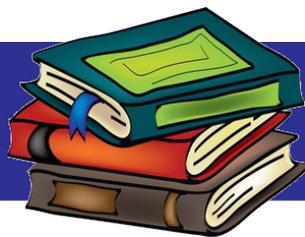
November 30

« Leonard Cohen. Une journée consacrée à l'œuvre du poète et de l'auteur compositeur Léonard Cohen, baladin juif d'aujourd'hui » [en partenariat entre l'Institut européen Emmanuel Levinas (AIU) à Paris]

New Appointment:

Dr. Erin Corber has been appointed Research Associate of the Institute. She is the seventh such Research Associate to be appointed. □

ON THE *Bookshelf*



NORA GOLD announces the publication of her new book, *Fields of Exile*, the first novel about anti-Israelism on campus. It has received enthusiastic reviews as well as praise from Cynthia Ozick, Phyllis Chesler, Irwin Cotler, Naim Kattan, Thane Rosenbaum, and Steve Stern, among others. Cynthia Ozick: "I read this novel with nonstop enthralled admiration." Thane Rosenbaum: "*Fields of Exile* restores one's faith in the possibilities of the novel."

Judith is a young woman who lived in Israel for a decade, was a peace activist there, and defines herself as "left-wing," yet in graduate school back in Canada, she discovers that vilification of Israel is the expected norm. When the keynote speaker for Anti-Oppression Day turns out to be a supporter of terrorist attacks, not

only against Israeli military targets but also against Israeli civilians and Jews around the world, Judith protests. As a result, she is marginalized by the faculty and her peers, and her life begins to unravel. This is a moving novel about love, betrayal and the courage to stand up for what one believes, as well as a searing indictment of the hypocrisy and intellectual sloth that threaten the integrity of our society.

Fields of Exile was published in May 2014 by Dundurn Press and is available on Amazon and at bookstores. For more information about *Fields of Exile*, visit noragold.com.

This past June, poet and short-story writer Professor **SEYMOUR MAYNE** spent two weeks in Romania, a guest of his Romanian publishers, Bookfest, the international book fair held in Bucharest, and the Embassy of Canada, which hosted a reception in his honour to highlight the publication of two books in Romanian translation: *Auspicious Calligraphy: Word Sonnets*, translated into Romanian by Raluca and Chris Tanasescu, with a foreword by Margento and afterword by Ion Bogdan Lefter, Bucharest: Tracus Arte, 2014; and *The Old Blue Couch and Other Stories*, translated into Romanian by Raluca Tanasescu, Iasi: Adenium, 2014. Radio Romania featured two interviews with Mayne that were broadcast on its national program on the arts.

The anthology *Plural/Pluriel* (University of Ottawa Press), co-edited by **SEYMOUR MAYNE**, has just been released in a Portuguese edition, that is, editorial and critical material and original texts in English and French have been included with Portuguese translations. *Plural* highlights the cultural diversity of contemporary poetry in Canada.

Plural is the first major Canadian (anglophone and francophone) poetry anthology to be published for the Portuguese literary and scholarly communities. It is also a first for the University of Ottawa Press. The eye-

catching cover was designed by Sharon Katz.

The book will be launched in both Rio and Ottawa.

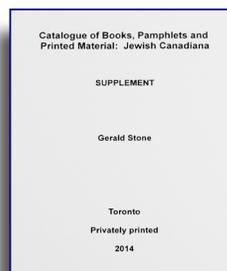
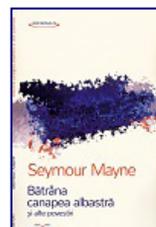
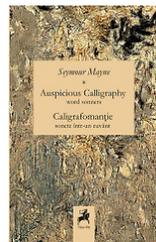
For a bilingual description of the original University of Ottawa Press edition of *Plural*, please access the following: <http://www.press.uottawa.ca/pluriel>.

GERALD STONE is pleased to announce the publication of the supplement to his *Catalogue of Books, Pamphlets and Printed Material: Jewish Canadiana*.

The original catalogue, published in 2008, described the author's personal collection of Judaica, consisting of approximately 2,000 volumes of primarily Jewish Canadiana.

A substantial portion of this collection was donated to the University of Ottawa in 2009, where it aligns with the objectives of the university's Vered Jewish Canadian Studies Program to promote an understanding of Canadian Jewish life, culture, language and history.

The supplement describes about 1,800 or more publications, documents and grey literature (e.g., theses, syllabi,



Continued on page 14



CANADIAN JEWISH STUDIES

Canadian Jewish Studies/ Études juives canadiennes: New Editions, New Look

Volume 22 (2014) of CJS/Éjc should now be on your doorstep! *Stories Told: Selected Writings on the Jewish Public Library of Montreal/Histoires que l'on raconte : Recueil de textes sur la Bibliothèque publique juive de Montréal* focuses an academic lens



on one of Montreal's most beloved Jewish institutions. Featuring articles by Ira Robinson, Pierre Anctil, Zachary Baker, Eva Raby and Stephanie Tara Schwartz, this book explores 100 years of the JPL from its founding ideas, its audio archives and children's library to a photographic meditation on its spaces. A tremendous thank-you to Shannon Hodge and the team at the Jewish Public Library for this fantastic collaboration. Thank you also to graphic designer Derek Broad for our fantastic new look!

Stay tuned for Volume 21 (2013), a collection of essays presented at Oyfn Veg (On the Road): A Symposium on Canadian Jewish Studies in honour of Professor Gerald Tulchinsky. Guest-edited by Frank Bialystok, this issue features essays by Morton Weinfeld, Jack Lipinsky, Ira Robinson, Pierre Anctil, Ian McKay, Ruth Frager and Carmela Patrias, Michael Bliss, Jack Granatstein, and Frank Bialystok and discussions by Michael Brown, Rebecca Margolis, Jennifer Stephen, and Gerald Tulchinsky. Thank you to all contributors.

Thank you also to Elizabeth Moorhouse-Stein and Antoine Burgard for copy-editing and translation help.

Lots to look forward to for Volume 24 (2015), including the next edition of *Archives Matter*, edited by Janice Rosen and focusing on small communities. Great articles and book reviews to come!

David Koffman and Stephanie Schwartz
Co-editors of CJS/ÉJC

Call for Papers Canadian Jewish Studies

Canadian Jewish Studies (ISSN: 1198-3493) is an annual, peer-reviewed journal devoted to publishing scholarly work, in English or French, on all aspects of the Canadian Jewish experience, irrespective of disciplinary perspective. We invite contributions from any field and focused on any aspect of Canadian Jewish life.

Please submit articles to *Canadian Jewish Studies* for consideration via Open Journal System: <http://pi.library.yorku.ca/ojs/index.php/cjs/about/submissions#onlineSubmissions>.

You may also submit a 350-word abstract, along with a short biography, to editor.cjs@gmail.com.

Appel à communications Études juives canadiennes

Études juives canadiennes (ISSN: 1198-3493) est une revue annuelle inter- et multi-disciplinaire évaluée par un comité de lecture et consacrée à la publication de travaux scientifiques, en anglais ou en français, sur tous les aspects de l'expérience juive canadienne et/ou québécoise.

Veillez soumettre votre article sur le Open Journal System: <http://pi.library.yorku.ca/ojs/index.php/cjs/about/submissions#onlineSubmissions>.

Vous pouvez également soumettre un résumé de 350 mots, accompagné d'une courte biographie, à editor.cjs@gmail.com.

CANADIAN JEWISH STUDIES



Difficult Questions in Jewish Studies Reading Group

Centre CELAT-UQÀM

We invite Montreal scholars to participate in an interdisciplinary, bilingual forum that reads together and reflects deeply on challenging issues in contemporary Jewish studies.

Discussion topics might include Jews and imperialism, multiculturalism versus interculturalism, the Israel-Palestine conflict, the place of Jews in Quebec, relations between Sephardim and Ashkenazim, race, colonialism, the Diaspora, secularism, power and critical Jewish thought. The group will meet monthly over the 2014-2015 academic year. Each meeting will explore a different theme through one or two theoretical readings that participants will be expected to read in advance.

We hope that this group will encourage cross-disciplinary and inter-university discussion and create an open space for dialogue for Jewish studies in Montreal.

Please contact Jessica or Stephanie, the organizers, to confirm your interest.

Jessica Roda, Ph.D.
Chaire de recherche du Canada
en patrimoine urbain
(UQAM)
roda.jessica@uqam.ca

Groupe de discussion Questions conflictuelles en études juives

Centre CELAT-UQÀM

Nous invitons les chercheurs de Montréal à participer à un groupe de discussion interdisciplinaire bilingue sur les questions conflictuelles dans le domaine des études juives contemporaines. Nous aborderons, entre autres, des thématiques telles que les Juifs et l'impérialisme, le multiculturalisme vs l'interculturalisme, le conflit israélo-palestinien, la place des Juifs au Québec, les relations entre Sépharades et Ashkénazes, la race, le colonialisme, la diaspora, la laïcité, le pouvoir et la pensée juive critique. Le groupe se réunira une fois par mois au cours de l'année scolaire 2014-2015. Chaque réunion explorera un thème différent à travers une ou deux lectures théoriques que les participants auront à lire en amont pour alimenter la discussion. Nous espérons que ce groupe servira à stimuler des discussions interdisciplinaires et inter-universitaires et à créer un espace ouvert au dialogue pour les études juives à Montréal.

Merci de contacter Jessica ou Stephanie pour confirmer votre participation.

Stephanie Schwartz, Ph.D.
Département d'histoire (UQAM)
Groupe de recherche, histoire, femmes,
genre et migrations
schwartz.stephanie@uqam.ca



ACJS/AÉJC on Twitter!

Stay up to date with the latest call for papers, news items and events in Canadian Jewish studies: <https://twitter.com/ACJSaejc>.

Follow us and share with your networks!

FROM OUR REGIONS

The West

Jewish Museum and Archives of BC



Thanks to the BC History Digitization Program and the Young Canada Works program, the Jewish Museum & Archives of BC now has over 1,700 photographs from the Fred Schiffer Photography collection available for viewing online: <https://www.flickr.com/photos/jewishmuseum>.

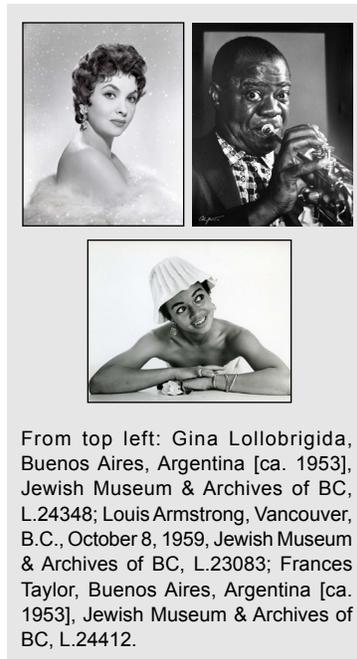
Fred Siegfried Schiffer was born in Vienna, Austria, April 1, 1917. A law student at the University of Vienna until 1938, he reached England as a refugee shortly before war broke out. He was the sole survivor of his family of five, all of whom perished in the Holocaust. In England he met his wife, Olive, whom he married in 1942, and began his distinguished career as a photographer. Olive and Fred had two children, Jennifer and Roger. In 1948 he set off with his wife and two small children to Buenos Aires, Argentina. There he became a respected artistic and commercial photographer. In 1958, when political unrest in Argentina became unbearable, the Schiffer family moved to Vancouver. Schiffer opened his studio on Seymour Street, where he quickly became Vancouver's top portrait photographer. He passed away November 6, 1999. In his four decades in Vancouver, he captured a staggering cross-section of Vancouver society.

The Fred Schiffer Photography collection [ca. 1940s-1999] contains approximately 80,000 photographs and 4 metres of textual records and artifacts. Most of the material digitized is from the Vancouver series (1958-1999), which documents family groups,

weddings, news celebrities, judiciary, film, stage and music personalities, and many more areas. Portraits digitized include Vancouver citizens of all walks of life juxtaposed with prominent B.C. personalities (both Jewish and non-Jewish alike). A smaller portion of the digitized photographs represents his work from when he lived in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

Many of the works originally thought lost in Schiffer's studio fire in the 1980s – Italian actress Gina Lollobrigida and American jazz trumpeter Louis Armstrong - actually did survive, albeit damaged. However, with today's digital technologies, we were able to recover the images from these damaged negatives.

Also, it was originally thought that an offbeat nude photograph of Dorothy Dandridge that Schiffer submitted to an American magazine contest was what won him a trip to North America.



From top left: Gina Lollobrigida, Buenos Aires, Argentina [ca. 1953], Jewish Museum & Archives of BC, L.24348; Louis Armstrong, Vancouver, B.C., October 8, 1959, Jewish Museum & Archives of BC, L.23083; Frances Taylor, Buenos Aires, Argentina [ca. 1953], Jewish Museum & Archives of BC, L.24412.

However, it appears that this was not a photograph of Dorothy Dandridge but instead of Frances Taylor (dancer and wife of Miles Davis). These photographs have not been researched

since Schiffer passed away in 1999. Hopefully now, this collection and its photographer, Fred Schiffer, will finally receive some much deserved recognition. This is only the first of many phases in the processing and digitization of this collection.

The JMABC is also in the beginning stages of developing both a physical and online exhibit of Schiffer's work. Stay tuned!

Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta



In commemoration of the centenary of the incorporation of the Chevra Kadisha of Calgary, the Jewish Historical Society of Southern Alberta (JHSSA) installed an interpretive plaque at the gates of the oldest Jewish cemetery in Calgary, in the Erlton district. Following the plaque dedication ceremony, local historian and JHSSA board member **Harry Sanders** led a tour of the cemetery.

The Chevra Kadisha was also the focus of our Annual General Meeting program on October 27, 2014. An illustrated talk highlighted the work of the many volunteers who have carried out the functions of the organization for over 110 years. Seven current volunteers spoke about their involvement. Most pointed out that the Chevra Kadisha is composed of the entire spectrum of the Jewish community and serves everyone equally. Many saw their involvement as a commitment handed down from generation to generation. All were proud that it has remained a volunteer, not-for-profit organization.

The women of the Sewing Circle emphasized that Calgary's is one of the few such organizations in which the



Left to right: Darlene Switzer Foster of the Chevra Kadisha of Calgary and JHSSA president Betty Sherwood unveiling the interpretive plaque at the Erlton Jewish Cemetery gate, August 17, 2014. Photographer: Ron Baker. JHSSA #4000.9

shrouds are still hand-sewn locally by volunteers.

JHSSA hosted a special program, “On the Trail for Treasure,” on September 15, 2014. **Sheldon Smithens**, past president of JHSSA and co-star of the Canadian Pickers television series, gave an illustrated presentation about his family’s involvement in the auction industry and his adventures with the TV show. The talk was followed by a silent auction of items relating to local history or Judaica.

Photographs have now been added to our Southern Alberta Veterans of World War I and II database. JHSSA has approached local Jewish schools, encouraging the social studies teachers to use the database as a resource for Remembrance Day programming.

Unfortunately, with the passing of so many of our Jewish veterans, the office of the local Jewish War Veterans of Canada, Post #2, has been closed. JHSSA was presented with the organizational files of Post #2.

Education kits, compiled in consultation with educator **Reva Faber** and with funding from an Alberta Community Spirit grant, have been completed and placed in a number of schools for a preliminary trial and feedback. The material has been written to fit the Grade 2 social studies curriculum – Communities in Alberta unit.

It focuses on the Jewish immigrant community and more specifically on the homesteading Jewish Montefiore Colony. The unit culminates with a class visit to Heritage Park to see the actual building of the Montefiore Institute. The local Rimon Jewish Needlework group kindly created some carrying bags for the JHSSA education kits.



Jewish Heritage Centre of Western Canada

Switzer–Cooperstock Lecture Prize

David S. Koffman (York University) won the Switzer-Cooperstock Prize in Western Canadian Jewish History and delivered a lecture September 18 on “Immigrant Jews and Indian Curios.”



This biennial prize is worth more than \$5,000. The 2016 prize will be advertised in autumn 2015.

The aim is to stimulate historical research in a valuable but under-researched area, and submissions from faculty, graduate students, senior undergraduates and community scholars are encouraged.

History of the Garment Trades

A major exhibit of the history of the garment trades in Winnipeg entitled “A Stitch in Time” was displayed in our corridor museum from December 2013 to June 2014, prepared by staff curator **Stanislao Carbone** and designer **Susan Turner**. Research included oral history.

Included among the programs complementing the exhibit were panel discussions on the past, present, and future of the garment industry, demonstrations of garment manufacturing, and an original play by Winnipeg playwright **Bruce Sarbit**, with music by well-known composer **Sid Rabinovitch** and lyrics by **Holly Harris**.

Holocaust Symposium

The 13th annual Holocaust Symposium in May featured survivor **Robbie Waisman** and Justice **Murray Sinclair** (Chair of the Canadian Truth and Reconciliation Committee) and drew 1,500 students.

Belle Jarniewski, chair of the Holocaust Education Committee, a component of the Jewish Heritage Centre, was named to the International Holocaust Remembrance Alliance.

“In Remembrance Lies Hope: The Theresienstadt Story”

“In Remembrance Lies Hope: The Theresienstadt Story” was prepared by the Holocaust Education Centre in cooperation with other local groups for Shoah Week. This 60-minute concert and illustrated lecture presented the experiences of **Kathy Blum**, Holocaust survivor and Winnipeg resident, who took part in the event. It is available on YouTube.

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Programs for Fall 2014

Programs include an event honouring Saskatchewan Jewish farmer, businessman, mayor, and cabinet minister **Norman Vickar** and his wife, **Florence**; the unveiling of a plaque honouring the General Monash Legion, formed in 1933 by Jewish veterans of World War I; a panel discussion by university historians about Jews in World War I; and the launch of a CD of past Winnipeg cantors.

A current exhibit celebrates the 60th anniversary of the B'nai Brith summer camp.

Our next exhibit will feature the Jews of the Dauphin, Manitoba, area with the help of a bequest from **Frances Bay**, a native of Dauphin who joined the theatre in Winnipeg in the 1930s, became a CBC radio actress during World War II, and moved on to a Hollywood career.

Ontario Jewish Archives



The Ontario Jewish Archives (OJA), Blankenstein Family Heritage Centre, has been recently named the recipient of \$195,100 from the Canadian Government through the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund for the renovation of its vault and public space. The announcement was made on September 11, 2014, by Member of Parliament Mark Adler (York Centre) on behalf of the Honourable Shelly Glover, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Official Languages.

In his statement, Adler said, “We are pleased to provide funding for the Ontario Jewish Archives, an important

cultural space in our community that hosts a significant collection of artifacts documenting the contributions of the Jewish community in Canada.”

This grant will support the installation of a modern, dedicated HVAC for the OJA vault as well as new lighting, a monitoring system and compact and moveable shelving that



Left to right: Jackie Shulman, OJ Foundation Board of Directors; Mark Adler, M.P.; and Dara Solomon, OJA Director.

will provide the archives with more storage space and better environmental conditions. The project will also update the public areas, creating a more comfortable and efficient space for researchers and staff. This grant is matched by funds generously provided to the OJA by the Blankenstein family through the Jewish Foundation of Greater Toronto.

Founded in 1973, the Ontario Jewish Archives, Blankenstein Family Heritage Centre, collects, preserves and makes available the records documenting the history of the Jewish community of Ontario. The OJA collects personal and institutional records documenting the individuals, businesses, organizations and institutions, both religious and secular, that have lived or operated in this province.

“The OJA is the largest professionally maintained repository of Jewish archival material in Canada. We have over 5,500 cubic feet of textual material and over 60,000 photographs. We also hold films, oral histories, artifacts and newspapers,” says **Dara**

Solomon, Director of the OJA. “We have an obligation to ensure that these treasures are managed according to best practices and under optimal conditions. As a result of this grant, the OJA will be better positioned to continue our important work of preserving, collecting and sharing the stories of our community into the future.” The OJA is

working with a number of vendors and a team of professional colleagues at the UJA Federation of Greater Toronto, who are helping to address some of the deficiencies in the current space and to implement the OJA’s wish list while staying within budget. Most pressing is the need for a dedicated HVAC.

In July 2004, the OJA was afflicted by an outbreak of mould, which developed as a result of insufficient humidity control within the vault. Although the temperature and humidity levels were charted by a hygrothermograph, the Archives remained tied into its larger building’s main HVAC system, making it difficult to achieve any type of environmental stability. Humidity levels generally rose from 12 percent in the winter to over 85 percent during the summer.

When the mould outbreak was discovered, all the records in the vault were promptly relocated to an empty warehouse. The Archives Association of Ontario’s Provincial Preservation Advisor, Iona McCraith, and a team of students from Sir Sanford

Fleming College in Peterborough were brought in to treat the contaminated records. The vault and duct work were thoroughly cleaned of mould, carpeting was removed, and the office space was repainted. The OJA remained closed for eight months, during which time the staff worked entirely offsite. This crisis brought to the fore the irreplaceable nature of the documents that are in the OJA's care.

"The mould outbreak was a wake-up call for everyone involved," says **Donna Bernardo-Ceriz**, archivist at the OJA. "It was disruptive to staff and researchers, expensive to remedy, and in the end could have had disastrous results. We knew that the environmental conditions were not ideal, and our director had been communicating the risk for over two years. The mould was an educational moment for all those who had questioned the need for a dedicated HVAC."

Following the mould outbreak, OJA staff attempted to introduce further measures to help control the temperature and humidity, including the introduction of portable humidifiers/dehumidifiers into the space, the use of data loggers for more accurate and timely readings from various areas of the vault, the establishment of better communication with maintenance about the particular needs of the collection, the purchase of a cold storage unit for photographic negatives, and closer attention being paid to microclimates. However, the main issue of the HVAC system was not resolved, in part because of other capital priorities at the time. Through the OJA's forthcoming renovations, this final piece of the puzzle will now be addressed.

Space has also become an issue at the OJA, both for the records and for researchers and staff. As the Archives' collections continue to grow, there is

little room for expansion. In keeping with the current rate of acquisition, new compact shelving will allow the facility to grow uninhibited for the next 18 years. It will also allow the Archives to bring back from offsite storage some of the most requested collections, saving the OJA money in storage costs and staff time. New storage solutions will also be purchased for specialty items, such as artwork, architectural drawings, oversized photographs and other items requiring substantial flat storage.

A new work terminal located in the vault itself will allow staff to conduct spot checks or make database changes and updates without having to travel between the vault and office space. This project will also include a reconfiguration of the research room to allow for more researchers at one time and new workspaces for oversized materials, such as architectural drawings and scrapbooks. Finally, a custom conservation table with storage underneath will make better use of the existing processing room space, where future donations to the OJA will be appraised and current records treated and processed.

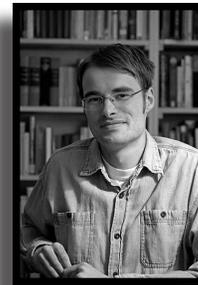
With the updated infrastructure and additional resources generously provided by the Canada Cultural Spaces Fund and the Blankenstein family, the OJA is a provincial cultural resource that is not only focused on preserving the past but is also actively looking towards Jewish Ontario's future.

*By Sarah Munro,
Outreach Coordinator*

Undergraduate Dissertation

Thomas Blampied's undergraduate dissertation, *A United Jewish Appeal? Fundraising and Identity in Toronto's Jewish Community, 1948-1975*, was

completed and submitted to the History Department at the University of York (UK) in April 2014. The project – which received funding from the Dr. Stephen Speisman Bursary (2013), a program of the Ontario Jewish Archives – examined how changes in local Jewish identity could be identified based on fundraising trends in Toronto's United Jewish Appeal. Research focused primarily on annual fundraising totals and committee minutes, which outlined the rationale behind the funding allocations.



The work identified that Israel was increasingly the UJA campaign's central concern, with major increases in the proportion of funding directed to the United Israel Appeal after the 1956 Suez Crisis and after both the 1967 and 1973 wars.

This allocation trend was not without detractors, and the money directed towards local Jewish causes was increased in the mid-1970s following concerns that local Jewish identity was being neglected.

This project offers a new perspective on Canadian Jewry's relationship with Israel, by shifting the focus away from political activities and concentrating on fundraising instead.

A United Jewish Appeal? was awarded the University of York's History Department Dissertation Prize. A copy is on file at the Ontario Jewish Archives. Researchers can also request a copy by contacting Thomas through his website, <http://pro-bono-history.blogspot.ca/>.

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Thomas Blampied is currently a graduate student in the History Department at the University of Toronto. He hopes to expand this project in the future.

The East

Sharon Gubbay Helfer has

been engaged as oral historian to gather testimony having to do with Sherbrooke's Jewish community.

This ongoing project includes a submission to the April 2015 conference at the Université de Sherbrooke on the topic "Histoire orale en vaut-elle la peine?"



Sharon is the translator for Quebec's new Jewish arts and culture magazine, *Le Magazine des cultures juives du Québec*, an initiative of French scholar, intellectual, teacher and playwright Dr. Sonia Sarah Lipsyc. Supported by [jQmtl](#), this ongoing series of interviews is conducted by Sonia Sarah with authors, scholars and artists whose work relates to the richly complex cultures of Jewish Quebec. □

Louis Rosenberg Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award 2015/ Prix d'excellence Louis Rosenberg en études canadiennes juives 2015

The Rosenberg Award Committee of the Association for Canadian Jewish Studies is now inviting members of our Association to submit nominations for the 2015 Louis Rosenberg Canadian Jewish Studies Distinguished Service Award.

Submissions should be accompanied by a statement outlining the individual's or the institution's background and justifying the suggestion.

Since 2001, the award has been presented annually by the ACJS to an individual, group or institution that has made significant contributions to Canadian Jewish studies in one or more fields.

The deadline is Friday, January 16, 2015. If an appropriate recipient is identified, the award will be presented at our next annual meeting in Ottawa, Ontario, in late May 2015.

Please send your nominations to the chair of the Award Committee, Barry Stiefel, bstiefel@yahoo.com.

Le Comité du Prix Rosenberg de l'Association d'études juives canadiennes invite maintenant les membres de notre association à soumettre des candidatures pour le 2015 Louis Rosenberg en études juives canadiennes prix pour service méritoire.

Les soumissions doivent être accompagnées d'une déclaration décrivant la personne ou d'arrière-plan de l'institution et de justifier la suggestion. Depuis 2001, le prix a été décerné chaque année par le ACJS à un individu, un groupe ou une institution qui a apporté d'importantes contributions aux études juives canadiennes dans un ou plusieurs champs. La date limite est le 16 janvier 2015. Si un destinataire approprié est identifié, le prix sera remis lors de notre prochaine assemblée annuelle à Ottawa, en Ontario, à la fin de mai 2015.

Veuillez envoyer vos candidatures à la présidence de la commission d'attribution, Barry Stiefel, bstiefel@yahoo.com.

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unpublished papers) acquired by the author between 2009 and 2014 in hard copy or electronic form.

Its emphasis is on journal and scholarly literature and publications in

electronic form. The entries are organized using the Elazar subject classification system, developed expressly for Judaica libraries. There is also an extensive name index.

For further information: <http://geraldstone.net>.

SHARON GUBBAY HELFER (2014) has published "Fear and Desire Across the Divide of Difference: A Videography-based Implementation of Herbert Kelman's Interactive Problem-solving Workshops" in *EDULEARN14 Proceedings*, pp. 1186-1195. □



CALL FOR PAPERS

The Journal is published exclusively on the Internet (www.womeninjudaism.org) as a forum for scholarly debate on gender-related issues in Judaism. The Journal, a not-for-profit organization, is indexed by EBSCO, Feminist Periodicals published by the University of Wisconsin System; ProQuest; Ulrich's International Periodicals Directory; RAMBI - The Index of Articles on Jewish Studies by the Jewish National and University Library at the Hebrew University; Index of Jewish Periodicals; MLA International Bibliography; MLA Directory of Periodicals; DOAJ (Directory of Open Access Journals); and Contemporary Women's Issues, Infotrac CPI.Q., Expanded Academic ASAP, General OneFile — distributed by Gale Cengage Learning. The Journal is mirrored at the National Library of Canada; Scholars' Portal Journals of the Ontario Council of University Libraries; and at the Judaica Division of the Harvard College Library of Harvard University. In addition, the Journal is indexed and linked with dozens of electronic directories and websites.

Articles, essays, book reviews, short notes and bibliographies from all disciplines in the humanities and social sciences are welcome. Submissions for the winter issue are concurrently accepted and should be sent by email to:

Dr. Dina Ripsman Eylon, Editor-in-Chief
 Women in Judaism: A Multidisciplinary Journal
 Email: dina.eylon@utoronto.ca

Note: Scholarship by or about Canadian Jewish women is especially encouraged.

We are also seeking book reviewers. A complete list of books is available in our Review Books Received section, which is updated periodically. For further information and guidelines for contributors, please consult our website or write to the Editor-in-Chief.



John O'Neill Award for Teaching Excellence

Congratulations to Professor **Randal Schnoor**, one of the winners of the John O'Neill Award for Teaching Excellence presented by York University's Sociology Undergraduate Student Association (SUSA).



Stephanie Tara Schwartz receives SSHRC Postdoctoral Fellowship 2014-2016

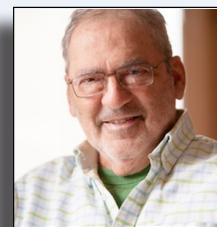
Stephanie Tara Schwartz is pleased to announce the beginning of her Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council (SSHRC)

Postdoctoral Fellowship 2014-2016 for the project "Mapping Moroccan Jews in Montreal: A Social and Digital History." She will be working under the supervision of Yolande Cohen in the Département d'histoire at l'Université du Québec à Montréal in the research group Histoire, femmes, genre et migrations: <http://www.hfgm.uqam.ca/>.



J.I. Segal Awards

Dr. Gerald Tulchinsky's book *Joe Salsberg: A Life of Commitment* was awarded the Jewish Public Library's J.I. Segal Award in Canadian Jewish Studies. The prize was presented at a public ceremony on November 12, 2014, at Federation CJA's Gelber Conference Centre in Montreal. □





ASSOCIATION FOR CANADIAN JEWISH STUDIES
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(Asterisks denote institutional members)

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Charities Committee

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