

Anne Frank

The Exhibition



Reconsidering Jewish Migration to the United States

A Century of Controversy

April 7, 2024

Reconsidering Jewish Migration to the United States: A Century of Controversy marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the Jewish Immigration Act of 1924 by exploring a century of Jewish engagement with immigration at the national and international level. The symposium brings together nationally renowned scholars and experts to examine how the 1924 Act restricted immigration from the interwar period to the 1980s, how Jews and other groups were affected, and how the liberalization of immigration law after the 1980s produced major demographic changes in the United States and set the stage for contemporary political controversies over the role of immigration in American life.

The symposium is presented in partnership with the Ford Foundation, the David Ray Foundation, and the Center for Jewish Public History. It is made possible by the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.

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The event is generously sponsored by
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Between Antisemitism and Activism

The Jewish University Experience
in Historical Perspective

CENTER FOR JEWISH HISTORY

Exhibitions & Programs

CENTER FOR JEWISH HISTORY

Bringing History to Life:

Supporting Exhibitions and Programs at the Center for Jewish History

At the Center for Jewish History, we breathe life into the past through immersive exhibitions and engaging programs that illuminate our shared history. Many of our initiatives stem from these exhibitions, transforming artifacts and narratives into inspiring stories that connect us to our roots.

From thought-provoking educational symposia and captivating book talks to engaging film screenings, musical performances, and theatrical productions, we offer enriching experiences that resonate with visitors of all ages—igniting curiosity in the young or deepening understanding for lifelong learners.

By supporting the Center's exhibitions and programs, you play a vital role in preserving and sharing the rich tapestry of Jewish history and culture. Join us in bringing history to life, one unforgettable experience at a time.

Between Antisemitism and Activism: The Jewish University Experience in Historical Perspective

Inspired by the wave of protests that erupted on American college campuses after the Hamas terror attack against Israel on October 7, 2023, this timely exhibit examined the turbulent experiences of Jewish students and faculty at European and American universities over the past century. Through a series of thought-provoking historical vignettes, visitors learned how Jews have been the targets of antisemitic persecution as well as the leaders of activist movements.

From the harrowing experiences of Jewish scholars in Nazi Germany to the creation of Jewish student organizations in the United States, ***Between Antisemitism and Activism*** offered visitors a vital lens through which to view the ongoing challenges and contributions of Jewish students and faculty on college campuses.



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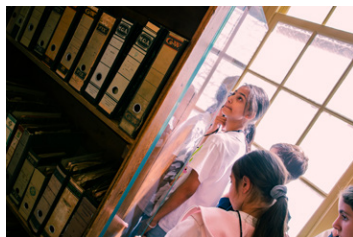


Anne Frank The Exhibition

Anne Frank The Exhibition, produced by the Anne Frank House in Amsterdam, opened at the Center for Jewish History on International Holocaust Remembrance Day to mark the 80th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz.

Anne Frank The Exhibition is a first-of-its-kind, full-scale recreation of the Annex, furnished as it would have been when Anne and her family were forced into hiding. Visitors are introduced to the pivotal events of Anne's life: her early years in Frankfurt, Germany; the rise of the Nazi regime; her family's move to Amsterdam in 1934 and flight into hiding in 1942; her arrest and confinement at the Dutch transit camp of Westerbork in 1944; her ensuing deportation to Auschwitz-Birkenau in Nazi-occupied Poland; and her eventual death in the Bergen-Belsen concentration camp in Germany in April of 1945 at the age of 15.

Designed for audiences who may not have the opportunity to visit the Netherlands, the exhibition remains one of the most important presentations of Jewish historical content on view in the United States. For more information, visit **AnneFrankExhibit.org**.



Bookcase, with visitors,
entrance Annex
(© Anne Frank House /
Photographer: Rosa Krastel)

JewCE! The Museum and Laboratory of the Jewish Comics Experience

Imagine wielding the power of a superhero to protect and celebrate the remarkable history of the Jewish people. Our recent exhibition, **JewCE! The Museum and Laboratory of the Jewish Comics Experience** brought this vision to life in the Rosenberg and Winnick galleries.

Visitors explored how Jewish creators shaped the comic book industry, particularly during the “Golden Age” of the 1930s and 1940s, when Jewish superheroes battled fascism. Highlights included original Captain America artwork by co-creator Joe Simon and the pioneering comics of Holocaust survivor Lily Renée, one of the first women in the industry. This dynamic exhibition offered an engaging, interactive experience for audiences of all ages, complete with opportunities to design your own superhero costumes!

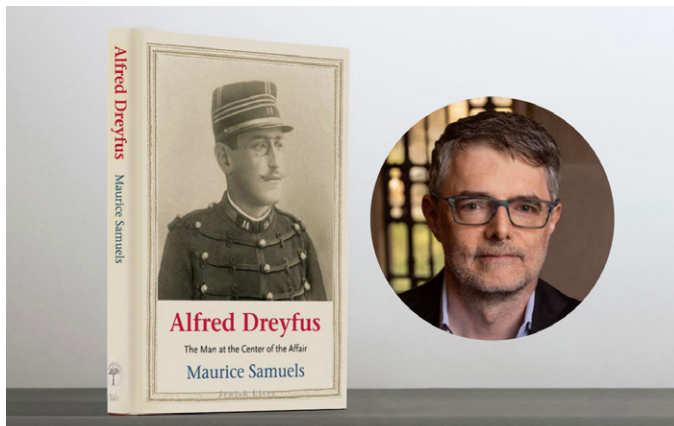
At the Jewish Comics Experience convention, visitors immersed themselves in the incredible work showcased in Artist Alley and met their real-life superheroes following engaging panel discussions!





The Dreyfus Affair in Postcards: Going Viral at the End of the 19th Century

The Center for Jewish History and the Blavatnik Archive proudly presented their collaborative exhibition, ***The Dreyfus Affair in Postcards: Going Viral at the End of the 19th Century***. This exhibition provided a unique perspective on the infamous Dreyfus Affair by showcasing a rich collection of “Dreyfusard” and “anti-Dreyfusard” postcards from the late 19th and early 20th centuries.



The Dreyfus Affair, which began in 1894 with the false accusation and wrongful conviction of Alfred Dreyfus, a Jewish officer in the French army, shook France to its core. The scandal not only divided the country but pushed it to the edge of civil war, igniting fierce debates over justice, nationalism, and antisemitism.

Maurice Samuels, the Betty Jane Anlyan Professor of French at Yale University and Director of the Yale Program for the Study of Antisemitism, explored the intricacies of the Dreyfus Affair in a book talk focusing on its Jewish dimension and the pervasive question of antisemitism.

Programs

At the Center for Jewish History, we believe in the power of culture to connect communities and enrich understanding. Through a diverse array of programs, we invite you to engage with Jewish history, music, and film, fostering meaningful dialogue and reflection.



The Jewish Public History Forum embodies the Center's tradition of academic rigor by making the latest scholarly research available to a broader audience. Since its creation, the Forum has convened major scholars, public intellectuals, and Jewish organizational leaders to discuss such topics as the relationship between Zionism and American Jews, the history of Jewish responses to fascism, the challenges of confronting antisemitism, and the history of Jewish migration to the United States.



We are excited to present our new film series, which not only entertains but also sparks important conversations about identity, resilience, and cultural significance. The Center was honored to host a screening of ***The Boy in the Woods***, a multiple film festival award winner that tells the true story of Maxwell Smart, a Jewish boy who escaped Nazi persecution in Eastern Europe and survived in the woods. The screening was followed by a panel discussion featuring writer and director **Rebecca Snow**, lead actor **Richard Armitage**, and **Maxwell Smart**, the survivor on whose memoir the film is based.



Founded in 2005 by pianists Vassa Shevel and Inessa Zaretsky, the **Phoenix Chamber Ensemble** has become an essential part of the New York classical music scene, presenting over 70 public concerts at the Center for Jewish History. With innovative programming and sensitive interpretations, the ensemble has cultivated a devoted following and earned an international reputation through performances in Russia, Poland, Italy, and other European venues.

Ways to Get Involved

Given the surge of contemporary antisemitism, the Center's exhibitions and programming deliver an urgent educational message by emphasizing the importance of preserving and sharing personal stories from history. Your support ensures that the Center for Jewish History will continue to educate the public and foster understanding and resilience against hatred.

Support Our Mission: The Center for Jewish History is dedicated to its mission of preserving the richness of the Jewish past, mobilizing it to meet the challenges of the moment, and propelling the profound and diverse narrative of the Jewish people forward to inspire future generations.

Please join us in this crucial effort.

Annual Fund for CJH

When you make a gift to the CJH Annual Fund, we'll direct it where it's needed most. Your contribution reaches far and wide: support for the Lillian Goldman Reading Room, where lay people and scholars alike come to explore primary sources in the collections; the Ackman & Ziff Family Genealogy Institute, a premier genealogy destination provided to the public free of charge; the Fellowship Program, bringing emerging and established scholars to the Center for a year of research and work with sources in the archives as they write dissertations, papers, and books; host lectures and performances year-round, and process and preserve collections, making them accessible globally.

The Center also provides critical infrastructure and working space to its five partners, facilitating their missions through public programs, providing digital and in-person access to collections and the archive, preservation of historical treasures, and a secure space to work and host conferences and events.

Exhibition and Programming Fund

Direct your gift to the Center for Jewish History's Exhibition and Programming Fund and help the Center spark imagination, broaden knowledge and bring history to life through engaging and compelling exhibitions. Programming, including the Jewish Public History Forum, enhances these exhibitions through events of cultural and intellectual significance. Your gift will help foster community connections and dialogue on topics crucial to the modern Jewish experience.

Education Fund

Your gift to the Center for Jewish History's Education Fund will help educate audiences of all ages. Your donation will help create educational programs to make Jewish history come alive for students as well as offer CTLE credits through professional development courses for New York state educators.

Security Fund

Given the surge of antisemitic rhetoric and actions, the need for security at Jewish cultural institutions around the world has never been more urgent. The Center's Security Fund ensures the safety and security of visitors, the collections, and staff year-round through proper staffing, screening technology, cameras and closed-circuit monitors, HVAC systems for temperature and humidity control of the archive and galleries, and fire safety for visitors and staff alike.

For more information, please email development@cjh.org
or call (212) 294-8310

Ways To Fund Your Gift

Your gifts of cash, pledges, or appreciated securities change lives. Wills, estate, and planned gifts allow you to create a lasting legacy that will ensure a financially robust future for the Center for Jewish History. Your gifts will enable public programming that responds to the moment, foster access to ground-breaking research and scholarship, archival processing, preservation, and digitization to keep Jewish history and culture secure and accessible worldwide for generations to come.

CJH accepts donations by:

- Check payable to Center for Jewish History
- Grant from your Donor Advised Fund (i.e., Vanguard, Schwab, Fidelity, Jewish Communal Fund, United Way, etc.)
- Qualified Charitable Distribution from your Individual Retirement Account (for donors ages 70 ½ and older)
- Gift of appreciated securities, contact development@cjh.org for instructions
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Federal Tax ID: 13-3863344

Mailing Address:

Center for Jewish History

15 West 16th Street

New York, NY 10011

Contact:

development@cjh.org

(212) 294-8310

The **Center for Jewish History** is one of the greatest public Jewish historical and cultural institutions in the world. Opened to the public in October 2000 as the campus to its five Partner organizations, the Center has achieved recognition as a venue of unrivaled historical documentation and scholarship, imaginative exhibitions of Judaic art and artifacts, and vital public dialogue. The collections of its Partners total more than 500,000 volumes and 100 million archival documents, and include thousands of pieces of artwork, textile, and ritual objects, as well as music, films, and photographs. They comprise the largest repository of the modern Jewish experience outside of Israel. The Center offers academic fellowships, symposia, conferences, and lectures as well as a wide array of cultural, educational, and genealogy programs for the public.

cjh.org