

# MICHIGAN JEWISH HISTORY

# BULLETIN

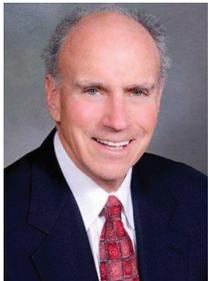


VOLUME 2 5/1/16



*A misty morning sunrise created a beautiful setting for photographer Elayne Gross as she captured J-Cycle 5 riders warming up at Detroit's West Riverwalk Park. J-Cycle 6, JHSM's annual bicycle tour of historic Jewish Detroit, is scheduled for August 21, 2016.*

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT, MICHAEL W. MADDIN



**I**T was an honor to greet JHSM members on the occasion of the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan's 57th Annual Meeting, held at Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Hills, and to present the 2016 Leonard N. Simons History Award to Jan Durecki, whose commitment

to preserving our Jewish stories perfectly represents the criteria of the award and would have made the late Leonard Simons proud. And congratulations to the JHSM 2016 Volunteers of the Year, Laurie Blume and Charlie Armstrong, both of whom exemplify the spirit of volunteerism.

At the beginning of my first term as JHSM president, I said to our board, "You don't need to see the top of the

stairs to take the first step." I now say, "We can see the top of the stairs with a few more steps to take!"

The two years since I expressed that sentiment have been very rewarding. At the time, I shared with the JHSM board a list of the "7 F's" I wanted to accomplish. Allow me to briefly recall and revisit them as achievements:

- Have FUN as board members and volunteers, while working together as a FAMILY ~ We did.
- FINANCES: Build our endowment by concentrating on larger donations and foundations in addition to our present methodology ~ We have and we are, including working with consultants to plan and enact the best methods to ensure our future.

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# BENEFACTORS & PATRONS OF THE 57TH ANNUAL MEETING

## BENEFACTORS

Dorothy & Arnold Collens  
Barbara & Jerry Cook  
Estelle & Philip Elkus  
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Barbara & Jonathan Haber  
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Mary Lou Zieve

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Denise Brown  
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Peggy & Dennis Frank  
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Joan & Dr. Robert Jampel  
Myrle & Richard Leland  
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*As of 4-25-16*

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Judy & Larry Pazol  
Edie & Donn Resnick  
Eileen Holzman & Peter Samosky  
Kathleen Straus & Hon. Walter Shapero  
Aimee Ergas & Tor Shwayder  
Mariette & Sidney Simon  
Pamela & Michael Smith  
Karen & Marshall Weingarden



## 2015 JHSM OFFICERS & DIRECTORS

*Top row (l to r) Jules Goldman, Treasurer; Chuck Domstein, Vice President; Michael Kasky, Vice President; Ruthe Goldstein, Secretary; Gerald Cook, Immediate Past President; Sheri Schiff, Jacqueline Elkus. Seated (l to r) Jeannie Weiner, Vice President; Michael W. Maddin, President; Carol Weisfeld. Not pictured: Barbara Cohn, Joy Gaines-Friedler, Neil Gorosh, Margery J. Jablin, Gabe Neistein.*



## LEONARD N. SIMONS HISTORY AWARD RECIPIENTS

*Standing (l to r) Mary Lou Zieve (1997), Sharon Alterman (2007), Michael Smith (2012), Charlotte Dubin (2011), Adele Staller (2002), Edie L. Resnick (2005), Judith L. Cantor (1998), Lori Bolkowsky (Sidney, z'l" 2001). Seated (l to r) Michael Maddin (1999), Gerald S. Cook (2006), James Grey (2010).*



*Michigan Jewish History Bulletin* is a newsletter for JHSM membership designed to share the fascinating information and research presented at JHSM's tours and programs, and to offer a colorful overview of the activities of the organization.

**Michigan Jewish History Bulletin**  
Michael W. Maddin, *President*  
Wendy Rose Bice, *Executive Director*  
*Contributors:* Beth Robinson, Michael Kasky  
*Editor:* Deborah Logan  
*Graphic Designer:* Laurie Blume

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# LEONARD N. SIMONS HISTORY AWARD 2016:

## JAN DURECKI

**JAN DURECKI**, director of the Rabbi Leo M. Franklin Archives at Temple Beth El in Bloomfield Hills, has always been drawn to the field of social history, which studies the experiences of ordinary people and how they come together to form communal norms.

For Southeast Michigan's Jewish community, Durecki has demonstrated this instinctive passion time and again, going above and beyond the scope of merely collecting and preserving important historical documents. She has deeply delved into the legacy and impact of the lives of ordinary Jewish men and women and their contributions to community life in both Detroit and Michigan.

In her ten years as director, Durecki has led the evolution of the Franklin Archives from an obscure space on the second floor of Temple Beth El to a state-of-the-art, modern, climate-controlled room. She has assisted dozens of researchers and community groups, and has added the archives of the Jewish War Veterans of Michigan and the Greater Detroit Chapter of Hadassah to the collection. She also developed and launched the highly popular Jewish History Detectives Lecture Series, sponsored by Dr. Robert and Joan M. Jampel.

Durecki completed her undergraduate work in history and art history at Oakland University, and holds master's degrees from the University of Michigan in American culture, and from Wayne State University in library and



information science with a specialization in archives management. In addition to her professional work, Durecki is a mother, a grandmother, and a runner, a hobby she took on less than a decade ago.

A few of her many research topics include Jewish soldiers in the Civil War and WWII, and Jewish connections to the entertainment and commercial-film industries in Michigan,

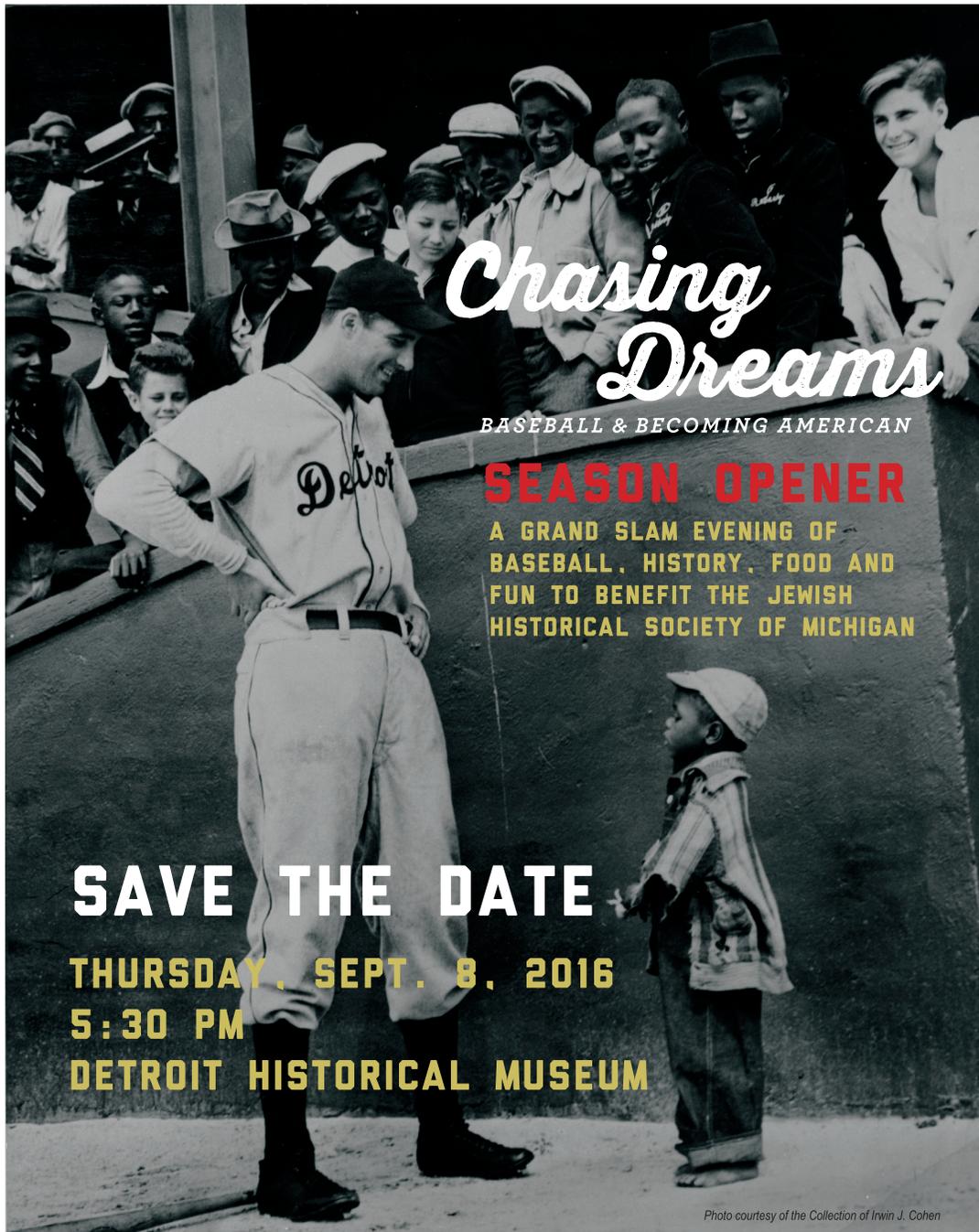
including surprising links to Berry Gordy and Motown Records. Jan is also responsible for organizing the Mary Einstein Shapero Memorial Lecture, sponsored by the Honorable Walter Shapero, which looks at Jewish history at the national and international levels, and she has trained countless volunteers and student interns who happily assist in the management of the archives.

The Rabbi Leo M. Franklin Archives, founded in 1981 using materials collected by Leo M. Franklin and Irving Katz, preserves the history of Temple Beth El, Michigan's first Jewish congregation, and also collects and preserves family records, manuscripts, photos, audio-visual materials, rare books, drawings, and other materials that record Southeast Michigan's Jewish history dating back to the mid-1800s. The collection, under Durecki's leadership, has been catalogued and made accessible to the community and the world online through the Temple Beth El website.

LEARN MORE ... VISIT THE  
TEMPLE BETH EL RABBI LEO M. FRANKLIN  
ARCHIVES AT [WWW.TBEONLINE.ORG](http://WWW.TBEONLINE.ORG)

### THE LEONARD N. SIMONS HISTORY AWARD PAST HONOREES

1991	PHILIP SLOMOVITZ*	2000	ALAN D. KANDEL*	2008	GEORGE M. ZELTZER*
1992	AVERN L. COHN	2001	SIDNEY M. BOLKOSKY*	2009	MANDELL L. BERMAN
1993	GEORGE M. STUTZ*	2002	ADELE W. STALLER	2010	JAMES D. GREY
1994	IRWIN SHAW*	2003	MATILDA BRANDWINE*	2011	CHARLOTTE M. DUBIN
1995	EMMA LAZAROFF SCHAVER*	2004	SUSIE CITRIN	2012	MICHAEL O. SMITH
1996	LESLIE S. HOUGH, PHILIP P. MASON	2005	EDITH L. RESNICK	2013	IRWIN J. COHEN
1997	MARY LOU SIMONS ZIEVE	2006	GERALD S. COOK	2014	A. ALFRED TAUBMAN*
1998	JUDITH LEVIN CANTOR	2007	SHARON L. ALTERMAN	2015	CARL LEVIN
1999	MICHAEL W. MADDIN				



# Chasing Dreams

BASEBALL & BECOMING AMERICAN

## SEASON OPENER

A GRAND SLAM EVENING OF  
BASEBALL, HISTORY, FOOD AND  
FUN TO BENEFIT THE JEWISH  
HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN

### SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, SEPT. 8, 2016  
5:30 PM  
DETROIT HISTORICAL MUSEUM

Photo courtesy of the Collection of Irwin J. Cohen

## EXHIBITION

SEPTEMBER 8  
THROUGH  
NOVEMBER 27  
2016

DETROIT  
HISTORICAL  
MUSEUM

5401 WOODWARD AVENUE  
DETROIT, MI

*Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American*, organized by the National Museum of American Jewish History, Philadelphia, highlights the ways in which our national pastime has served as a pathway for learning and understanding American values for Jews and other immigrant groups and their descendants. Wherever one lived, in crowded tenement-style housing or suburban landscapes, a baseball diamond was nearby. *Chasing Dreams* explores the ways in which baseball has reflected not only the opportunities in American society and culture, but also the challenges—including religious and racial tolerance—faced by our nation and local communities. This national story also includes locally curated stories and artifacts.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, VISIT  
[WWW.MICHJEWISHHISTORY.ORG](http://WWW.MICHJEWISHHISTORY.ORG)  
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Charlene Handleman  
Marjorie & Maxwell Jospey Foundation  
Donna & Michael Maddin  
Mendelson Kornblum Orthopedics & Spine Specialists  
Michigan Jewish Sports Foundation

Major support for *Chasing Dreams* has been provided by the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the Human Endeavor, Major League Baseball, the Annette M. and Theodore N. Lerner Family Foundation/Washington Nationals, the Marc and Diane Spilker Foundation, Leon Wagner, Harriet and Larry Weiss, Judy and Fred Wilpon-NY Mets, and Sam Wisnia. Additional support is provided by Macy's.

# JHSM VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR

## CHARLIE ARMSTRONG



When the JHSM founders imagined the future, they most likely did not expect that JHSM would someday have its own motor-coach driver. But thanks to his employer, National Trails, Charlie Armstrong has had the opportunity to adopt JHSM and JHSM has been lucky enough to adopt him. Armstrong, born and raised in western metro Detroit, says his first JHSM bus trip, a youth tour for Temple Beth El, was on April 22, 2012. In the years since, “Charlie,” as our docents and passengers know him, has become JHSM’s very own private driver. The one-time General Motors journeyman knows JHSM’s bus routes as well as or even better than do our docents, a talent that saves precious time and frustration on our tours. He eagerly looks for ways to make our guests’ experience more pleasurable, helping to carry heavy boxes, distributing water,

snacks, or our materials, and greeting each and every guest with a smile. Along the way, Armstrong has learned a lot about Detroit and Jewish history. “I meet a lot of wonderful people and actually get paid to travel to a lot of awesome places! I enjoy these tours because I learn something, not that I can remember everything nor will I ever remember as much as Ruthe (Goldstein) knows!” Armstrong commented. “It’s interesting to see how things used to be and see how our country has developed since then. Thank you for allowing me to be a part of your tour program, and I look forward to being with JHSM for years to come.” When he’s not driving a bus, Armstrong works as a gate agent for Delta Airlines. He also volunteers at the airport as a jet bridge inspector, using a system for inspection that he helped develop. Armstrong is the father of one son, Caleb.

## LAURIE BLUME



To appreciate Laurie Blume’s talent, all one need do is look at JHSM’s printed materials—she has designed just about everything we’ve produced during the last six years. Blume was first introduced to JHSM more than a decade ago when she took over the design of *Michigan Jewish History*, our annual journal. Since then, Blume’s artistry has influenced much of JHSM’s public image.

Born and raised in the Detroit area, Blume earned her bachelor of fine arts degree from the University of Michigan Stamps School of Art and Design. Early in her career, she worked as a designer at H.B. Stubbs, designing primarily for General Motors exhibits. She then went on to Programmed Products, focusing on retail and commercial graphics for national grocery and retail chains.

In 1987, she opened Blume Design, a boutique design studio. Her clients have included West Bloomfield Parks and Recreation, The Taubman Company, MJR Theaters, The University of Michigan, and Wayne State University. In addition, Blume has worked extensively with many Jewish organizations, including the David-Horodoker Organization,

The Holocaust Memorial Center, Jewish Family Services, Jewish Theological Seminary, Hillel Detroit, and the Frankel Jewish Academy. In 2014, she joined Rebuild Nation, an advertising and digital-media agency, as creative director.

Just as she does for JHSM, Blume provides more than simple design services. She lends her expertise in marketing, editing, and designing materials that are appealing, effective, and efficient for the job at hand. The Jewish Historical Society of Michigan has benefitted greatly from Blume’s attention to detail, and from her more-than-generous donation of time and talent. Blume has also designed the *Michigan Jewish History Bulletin*, the *Michigan Women Who Made a Difference* logo and book, the *Traveling Trunk* workbook, and the updated Michigan map used on JHSM’s tours and programs.

In addition to generously sharing her artistic talent, Blume has fostered important partnerships for JHSM, including with Rebuild Nation, a J-Cycle and Nosh Gen sponsor. Blume is one of those rare volunteers who is the first to raise her hand to help with JHSM events and programs. Laurie Blume and her husband, David, have two daughters.

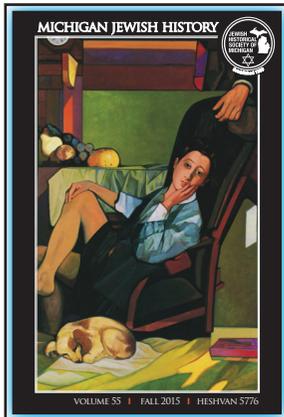
# JHSM Year In Review

HUNDREDS LEARN MICHIGAN'S JEWISH HISTORY  
BY ATTENDING AND PARTICIPATING IN JHSM'S  
PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

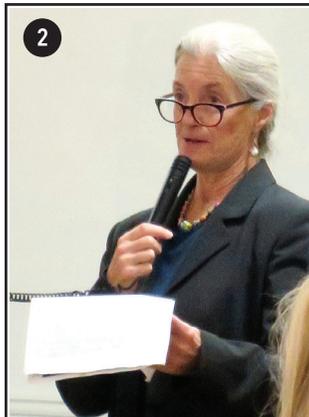
*A perfect sunny day greeted guests on the JHSM Tour of the Architecture of Albert Kahn held in November 2015. ② Carol Kahn, granddaughter of Albert, shared some family lore and reminisced over lunch. ③ Bernie Jonas and Esther Morger leave the Albert Kahn-designed B. Siegel home on Boston Boulevard.*

①

Michigan Jewish History, Vol. 56, published in November, 2015 featured several important and fascinating articles, including a profile of Jewish inventors and patent holders, a remarkable look into life in Detroit at the time of the Civil War, and a touching memoir penned by Frances Driker, of blessed memory.



②



③



The 56th Annual Meeting of the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan was held on Thursday, May 28, 2015 at Detroit's fabulous Gem Theater. A record crowd turned out to raise funds for JHSM and to honor Carl Levin, the 2015 Leonard N. Simons History Award recipient.

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⑤



④ JHSM Research Director Aimee Ergas and Harriet Berg.  
⑤ JHSM President Michael Maddin with Bernard Cantor and Former U.S. Senator Carl Levin. (Photos by Elayne Gross)

The JHSM Jewish History Curriculum includes The Traveling Trunk, a series of four in-class lessons, and the Settlers to Citizens Bus Tour of Historic Jewish Detroit. ⑥ JHSM educator, Alyssa Kornfeld teaches middle school students at Kol Ami. ⑦ Michael Lopetrone, a local actor portrays Hank Greenberg on youth bus tours. ⑧ Religious school students visit the Belle Isle Aquarium. (Photo courtesy Ezra Donner)

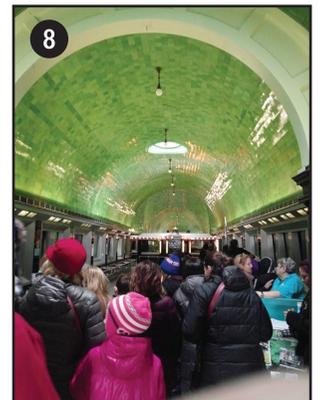
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# JHSM Year On Review

HUNDREDS LEARN MICHIGAN'S JEWISH HISTORY  
BY ATTENDING AND PARTICIPATING IN  
JHSM'S PROGRAMS THROUGHOUT THE YEAR.

More than 100 JHSM members and guests attended the inaugural Nosh Gen event held at Will Leather Goods in Detroit. **9** Committee chairs Debby Tukel, Laini Freed, Wendy Rose Bice (JHSM executive director), and Barbara Cohn. **10** Will Adler, founder of Will Leather Goods and third-generation Jewish Michigan retailer, shared some of his family's history. **11** Donna Madden, Jo Rosen, Wendy Sadoff, Elizabeth Zerwekh. (Photos by Elayne Gross)



**12** JHSM presented "Growing Up Central High" at the 78th Annual David-Horodoker Organization Annual Dinner. The panel discussion was led by Professor Howard Lupovitch, Wayne State University, and Hayley Sakwa. Central High School alumnae who participated on the panel were (left to right) U.S. Representative Sander Levin, Honorable Avern Cohn (1942), Edie Resnick (1944), Paul and Barbara Goodman - who met at Central High School and both graduated in 1953, Allen Zemmol (1948) and Sidney Simon (1953)

**13** In August 2015 George and Joyce Blum gathered their family for a JHSM customized tour of historic Jewish Detroit in honor of their 60th wedding anniversary.



J-Cycle 5 stops included the Repair the World Workshop, Clark Park, Historic Fort Wayne, Woodmere Cemetery, The Alley Project, Spaulding Court, Michigan Central Depot and the Detroit Institute of Bagels. **14** Sharon Havis, Ronna Ersher, and Alan Havis enjoy the sunny day. **15** DaVid Powell from the Isaac Agree Downtown Synagogue. **16** Beth Brandvain waves a happy hello. **17** Mary Freeman, Randy Gavorin, Ken Wolcott, and Andy Levin were four of the 18 group leaders. **18** Andi Roisman, Phyllis Loewenstein, Charlene Handelman, Cathy Deutchman, and Dennis Frank are ready to roll! (Photos by Elayne Gross)



# YEARS AFTER GROSSMAN'S DEPARTMENT STORE OPENS IN MUSKEGON, JEWISH RETAIL DNA SHOWS UP IN WILL LEATHER GOODS STORE

BY BETH ROBINSON

*On a chilly and snowy March 3, 2016 evening, more than 100 guests attended the first-ever JHSM Nosh Gen event held at Will Leather Goods Detroit. The event featured Will Adler, the founder of Will Leather Goods who shared the story of his family's retail history, which dates back to the 1911 founding of Grossman's Department Store in Muskegon. Adler, surrounded by colorful bags, hats, and accessories, also explained the strategy employed by contemporary retailers. To achieve success, he said, retailers must offer more than just racks of clothes and accessories. Shopping is an experience, and Will Leather Goods provides just that. Along with its old-school customer service, the store offers a coffee bar and a community art gallery, and it is adorned with old canoes, vending machines, and assorted furnishings, all of which are for sale. A giant teepee in the middle of the store, explained Adler, is a quiet place for a chat, a meeting, or just a spiritual break from daily life.*



*Founded by former Detroit and third-generation Michigan Jewish retailer, Will Adler, Will Leather Goods Detroit, located on 2nd Ave. in Midtown, is a space that is, as much as anything, a stage set for products that are made by the company and purchased from artisans around the world.*

**AS** pogroms raged in late nineteenth-century Poland, Henry and Anna Rubinsky fled with their five children to the United States, stopping briefly in Chicago before settling in Muskegon, Michigan. Their daughter Sadie returned to Chicago for finishing school. Back in Chicago, Sadie met and fell in love with Isaac Grossman, a wealthy clothing merchant who had also immigrated from Poland. When Sadie returned to Muskegon, Grossman made monthly trips around Lake Michigan to visit her. They married in 1907 and settled in Muskegon, where Grossman opened a clothing and dry-goods store.

In 1911, Grossman moved into a larger space and opened Grossman's Department Store. His brother Isaac joined the business and managed the store. Grossman's would become one of the town's leading retailers.

Nosh Gen: Food, Fun & a Dash of History, is a new event series that combines food, drink, friendship, and history. The two-hour events begin with informal socialization and "noshing," then guests gather to listen to a presenter who shares a bit of Michigan's Jewish history, history that relates to a specific theme or topic connected to the location of the event.



*For decades Grossman's department store was where the people of Muskegon went to buy their suits, clothing, home goods, and furniture.*

Isaac Grossman placed a high priority on charitable giving and community service. He helped families who had lost homes to fire, and he provided support to children who needed medical attention. In 1917, Isaac donated a building to Muskegon's growing Congregation B'nai Israelite. And, in 1946, when the congregation outgrew that location, Grossman became one of the largest contributors to the new building fund. Sadie, meanwhile, became an active fundraiser for United Jewish Charities, and was known to keep her large handbag filled with candy and gum to dispense to Muskegon's children.



*Isaac and Sadie Grossman had eight children—five daughters and three sons—all of whom worked in the business alongside their spouses and various members of the Rubinsky family.*

During the economic crash of 1929, Grossman's, the largest retailer in town, held its ground while smaller retailers folded. The business also survived a 1937 fire that decimated Muskegon's business district, including Grossman's Department Store. The family used this opportunity to rebuild, restock, and reopen in time to take advantage of the recovering economy.

Isaac Grossman died in 1941, and his sons Herman and Louis, along with son-in-law Sam Klayf, ran the business. Grossman's did well in the post-war years, expanding and in 1954 opening a furniture store. But Muskegon's declining economy and the increasing popularity of shopping malls did what the 1937 fire could not. Grossman's Department Store closed in 1961.

Shirley Grossman, one of Isaac and Sadie's daughters, married Harold Adler, a clothing buyer and merchandising manager for Hughes Hatcher Suffrin in Detroit. Hughes Hatcher Suffrin was created when the Harry Suffrin shop merged with Hughes and Hatcher in the late 1950s. Throughout the sixties, seventies, and eighties, it was a

high-end, service-oriented, top-of-the-line clothing store, where Detroit's professional men and women came for fashion.

Part businessman, part artist, and part tastemaker, Harold Adler helped define the styles and fashions of Midwest menswear. He selected the tweeds, cashmeres, prints, and pinstripes that well-dressed Detroiters would wear. He was meticulous, picking looks for the windows and displays at the stores in Detroit, Birmingham, and the Northland and Eastland shopping centers. He taught salespeople how to put a whole outfit together, right down to the pocket square. No customer ever walked out with just a suit.

Harold Adler's sons, Robert and Will, grew up seeing swatches of wool, silk, and gabardine on the dinner table. During meals and outings, Harold Adler mentored his sons, sharing his expertise and wisdom.

Robert, the older son, soaked up the creative clothing energy and was inspired to follow in his father's footsteps. In the mid-seventies, he opened a chain of five men's clothing stores called Man Oh Man, one of which was at the Northland Center in Southfield. Robert became an innovator in the men's clothing business and was the first to bring fine Italian clothing to urban Detroiters, widely introducing the European flair that previously had been available only in upscale stores such as Sak's Fifth Avenue and Neiman Marcus. Robert, like his father, developed a solid reputation.

Will, on the other hand, was not interested in the clothing business. He studied acting at Wayne State University, and then attended the Goodman School of Drama at the Art Institute of Chicago. He returned to Michigan for a stint at Meadow Brook Theater in Rochester before doing an off-Broadway production in New York, where a talent scout asked him to come Los Angeles to read for the role of Billy Bibbit in the film "One Flew Over the Cuckoo's Nest." Although he didn't get that part, he remained in Los Angeles and appeared in several television shows and movies.

In 1981, the Screen Actors Guild went on strike over the distribution of profits. The strike was eventually settled in favor of the guild, but not before 60,000 actors, including Will Adler, had been out of work for eight months. During this time, Robert visited his brother in California and suggested that Will start making Boy Scout-style web belts, which were selling like mad on the streets of New York City.

For the price of material and buckles, Will launched Rainbow Belts, selling the colorful belts on Venice Beach. Business was brisk. Adler soon added wallets and was making enough money to pay his rent and take care of his family.

Before long, the ghost of the entrepreneurial Isaac Grossman and his family lessons around the dinner table took hold of Will Adler. Over the next decade, the company, by then called Billy Belts, grew to employ 165 people who sewed and cut leather, making the products that Adler sold



*Launched on a table on Venice Beach in California, Will Adler's belt business grew to a multi-million-dollar empire. The belts continue to be sold by Adler today.*

wholesale to stores such as JCPenney, Sears, and Nordstrom. In 1992, Adler sold Billy Belts to Brighton Accessories, where he worked under contract for the next two years. He then moved to

Oregon and started working as a creative director and designer for companies including Levi Strauss, Calvin Klein, Nautica, and Joseph Abboud.

In the 1990s, Adler collaborated with Mindy Grossman, then vice president of Nike Global, to create the first Nike running shoe. Nike loved the product, and the Nike-Adler partnership lasted fifteen years. In 2009, Adler's entrepreneurial drive and creativity led him to found Will Leather Goods, where he used distressed and oiled leathers to create high-quality products with a rugged, casual, vintage feel. In 2012, on the beach in Venice, California, he opened the flagship Will Leather Store, giving his unique products an appropriate retail setting.

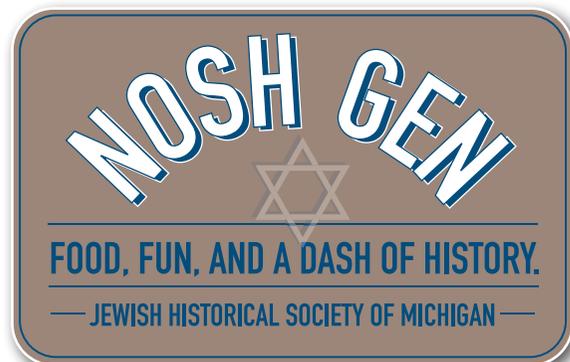
As the small retail chain grew, with locations on both coasts, Will frequently returned to Detroit to visit his brother. The two spent a lot of time together in Detroit's Midtown, especially during the year before Robert's death. Will soon began working with Sue Mosey of Midtown Detroit, Inc., and Invest Detroit to buy and obtain a grant to remodel the old Tomboy Market on Second Avenue. Opening the Detroit Will Leather Goods store was part business move, part investment in the city, and part homage to the older brother who inspired him.

Following in his grandfather's footsteps, Will Adler has 10



*Robert Adler (right) was working in one of his retail stores when a gang robbed and sprayed the store with bullets, hitting Adler, and leaving him with a leg so badly shattered that it affected his health for the rest of his life. The two brothers are pictured here, during one of Will Adler's many visits to Detroit in the year before Robert's death.*

made old-school customer service, philanthropy, and community service intrinsic parts of Will Leather Goods. Give Will, an initiative launched by Will Adler, gives high-quality backpacks to underprivileged American children. The goal is to distribute 500,000 of these by the year 2025. In Detroit, more than 5,000 backpacks have been distributed, including to students at Will Adler's former school, Vernor Elementary.



## BELLE ISLE AQUARIUM

JUNE 22, 2016, 7-9 PM \$49/PERSON

RESERVATIONS: [WWW.MICHJEWISHHISTORY.ORG](http://WWW.MICHJEWISHHISTORY.ORG)



*On November 1, 2015, the sun shone when docents Arnold Collens and Michael Kasky led JHSM's newly designed tour of Albert Kahn's Detroit architecture. More than 100 participants experienced the tour, whose theme centered on Albert Kahn being the personification of the American dream. Guests saw a wide range of Kahn designs including apartment and single-home structures, and industrial, commercial, public, and religious buildings.*

*Tour participants especially appreciated interior viewings of three Kahn-designed buildings.*

*First, the still-impressive sanctuary of the 1922 former Temple Beth El, at Woodward and Gladstone in Detroit, and its four beautiful murals painted by Myron Barlow. Using Rabbi Franklin's own words, docents explained how each mural symbolized an important concept of Reform Judaism. During lunch in the social hall, guests heard Carol Kahn, Albert's granddaughter, share her experience of growing up in the Kahn family. Participants were also invited inside the elegant 13,000-square-foot Italian Renaissance Revival-style Boston Boulevard mansion designed in 1915 for Benjamin Siegel, owner of the former B. Siegel chain of carriage-trade ladieswear shops.*

*Finally, a visit to the Fisher Building included a tour of the elaborate, three-story lobby designed by Hungarian artist Geza R. Maroti. More than forty different kinds of marble, along with artistic pieces such as engraved-brass elevator doors, were used to decorate the interior.*

# THE ARCHITECTURE OF ALBERT KAHN

BY MICHAEL KASKY



*This is the Fisher Building, as Albert Kahn envisioned it. The original concept called for a 60-story tower flanked by two 30-story towers. When the building was built in 1927, less than a third of Albert Kahn's original design was constructed. The plan was scaled back because of financial concerns. Photo courtesy Albert Kahn and Associates.*

**LEGENDARY** architect Albert Kahn designed thousands of buildings for locations around the world, including hundreds in Metropolitan Detroit. An immigrant child who grew up in an impoverished household and never went beyond third grade, Kahn became an award-winning, world-renowned architect whose inventive designs made the automobile assembly line possible. Kahn designed or supervised the design of more than 2,000 factories and numerous residential, commercial, religious, public, and organizational buildings. He worked on more than 1,000 commissions from Henry Ford and hundreds more for other automakers.

## ALBERT KAHN, A BRIEF HISTORY

The oldest of eight children born to Rabbi Joseph and Rosalie Kahn, Albert was born on March 21, 1869, in Rhaunen, Kingdom of Prussia. Joseph was an itinerant rabbi who traveled to small towns and villages that lacked a permanent rabbi. When Albert was five, the family and Rosalie's sister Ethel moved to the village of Echternach, Luxembourg, where Ethel began teaching Albert to play the piano. Young Albert began to perform in local concerts; meanwhile he was developing skills as an artist.

After five years of eking out a minimal living in Luxembourg, Joseph traveled alone to Baltimore to find a steady job. A year later, when Albert was 11, Joseph brought the family to Baltimore, but they soon moved to Detroit where Rosalie, Joseph, and Albert worked in a railway-station restaurant. A rabbi at heart, Joseph continued to offer his services to small congregations, earning extra money for the family. Still, the family struggled, and Albert,

needing to contribute what he could, never enrolled in public school. By the time Albert was 12, the restaurant had closed, and Joseph began selling vegetables from a horse-drawn wagon. Albert became a stable boy.

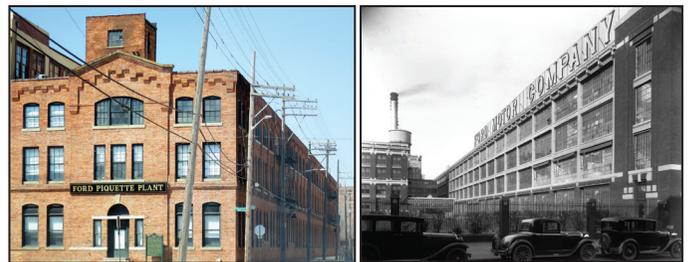
Meanwhile, Albert continued to draw, and his mother introduced him to a friend of hers, architect John Scott. Impressed by Albert's drawings, Scott hired him as a part-time office boy. Albert, who worked mornings at the stable, apparently had no time to bathe between his two jobs and was fired by Scott because of his body odor. The legend is that Albert, too sad to go home that day, was sitting on his street corner when Julius Melchers, a friendly neighbor and renowned sculptor, asked what was wrong. Melchers invited Albert to sit in on his Sunday afternoon art classes and, after evaluating his class progress, recommended him to architect George Mason, who hired 14-year-old Albert as an errand boy and allowed him to use the firm's library. This was Albert's break. Mason and his staff at Mason & Rice mentored the hard-working teenager who at 15 was promoted to apprentice draftsman. Albert became known for his creative style and attention to client instructions, and his ability to increase the usefulness of structural space while making it aesthetically pleasing. In 1887, he designed the porch for the Grand Hotel on Mackinac Island. By 1889 he had helped design the Booth and Scripps mansions.

In 1891, at the age of 22, Albert won a \$500 Roach Traveling Scholarship to study European architecture. He traveled through England, Italy, France, Belgium, and Germany, studying and sketching the structural engineering and architectural designs of classical, medieval, renaissance, and contemporary buildings, towers, and arches. Returning to Mason & Rice in 1892, Albert was promoted to chief designer, a position he held for four years. In 1896, Kahn, George Nettleton, and Alexander Trowbridge started their own architectural firm, but in 1897 Trowbridge left to teach at Cornell University, and in 1900 Trowbridge died. With his two partners gone, Albert renamed the firm Albert Kahn & Associates. Kahn's firm would become one of America's most prolific and respected architectural firms, in large part because of Kahn's work in factory design.

In 1902, Albert's brother, Julius, who had graduated

from the University of Michigan with a scientific and civil engineering education (financed by Albert), joined Albert Kahn & Associates. Julius had worked for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers trying to create a stronger reinforced concrete. He developed theories and began experimenting in Albert's basement. He invented a new reinforced beam in which the straight steel beam was bent back on its edges, creating stress-distribution wings. This "Kahn Trussed Bar" greatly increased tension strength. Albert successfully used this new technology to design the reinforced concrete floors of the Palms Apartment Building in Detroit, a precursor to its effective use in more-demanding industrial buildings.

In August 1903, Julius Kahn patented his concrete and construction method, a system that revolutionized American manufacturing. Not only did the new method allow for better-illuminated, fire-retardant factories, it also allowed for substantially larger floor areas between fewer but wider-spaced support columns. This made it possible to install larger machinery that would soon become essential for assembly lines. Henry Ford was so impressed by Albert Kahn's 1905 Packard Motor Car factory that he engaged Kahn to design his 1909 Highland Park factory, where the first automotive assembly line was installed, and subsequent Rouge factories—then the world's largest manufacturing complex. It is interesting to note that Henry Ford, with his controversial opinions about the Jewish people, continued for decades to retain Albert Kahn, the son of a rabbi, as his chief architect. Ford also attend Kahn's funeral, in 1942, held in the sanctuary of Temple Beth El at Woodward and Gladstone.



*The 1903 Smith, Hinchman, and Fields-designed Ford Piquette plant (left), in the Milwaukee Junction manufacturing district, is an example of a pre-Albert Kahn, traditional brick-walled, wood-floored factory. (Right) The 1908 Albert Kahn-designed Highland Park Ford factory, opened in 1910, uses Kahn's reinforced-concrete design allowing for larger workspaces and windows. Ford installed the first moving automotive assembly line in 1913, reducing average production time of a Model T Ford from over twelve hours to less than two hours. (Photograph of Ford Highland Park courtesy of Albert Kahn & Associates).*

## RESIDENTIAL AND COMMERCIAL PROJECTS

Not as well known are the many apartment buildings and private homes that Kahn designed for clients throughout the Detroit area in locations including Brush Park, Indian Village, the Grosse Pointes, and Boston-Edison. Many of these structures were included in the tour, and offer examples of Kahn's artistry in designing practical and aesthetically-pleasing homes. His many different architectural styles included Victorian Gothic, Arts and Crafts, American Federal, Italian Renaissance Revival, and British Tudor.

*These are just a few of the Albert Kahn-designed homes seen on the tour.*



*1915 Italian Renaissance Revival style 13,000 sq. foot limestone mansion designed for Benjamin Siegel.*



*1907 Arts and Crafts Boston Boulevard center-entrance, bay-windowed home designed for Francis 'Fred' Holt.*



*1910 Tudor Revival-style 2,800 sq. ft., 10-bedroom home designed for Michigan Senator James J. Couzens.*



*1906 Arts and Crafts-style house Albert Kahn designed to be his family home.*

Kahn also designed a range of commercial buildings including movie houses, retail stores, and automobile dealerships. He used Greek and Roman classical architecture styles to design banks and buildings of prominence, and Italian Renaissance design for public buildings such as the 1915 Detroit Athletic Club and 1921 Detroit Police Headquarters. Kahn sketched and brought to life dozens of Detroit's low-rise and skyscraper office buildings, including the 1922 First National Building and 1922 General Motors Building, and art-deco buildings such as the 1935 WWJ AM radio broadcast building.



*One of Albert Kahn's most elegant commercial buildings is the 30-story Fisher Building, winner of the 1928 Architectural League of New York's silver medal for the most beautiful commercial building erected that year.*

Kahn, beloved by the Jewish community, also showed his talent for designing magnificent synagogues when he designed the 1903 and 1922 Temple Beth El buildings and the 1928 Romanesque-Revival Moorish-influenced Shaarey Zedek structure. Legend has it that Kahn chose Greek and Roman classical architecture for his Beth El buildings to point out that Judaism is the oldest of the Abrahamic religions. The Shaarey Zedek

exterior is considered exceptionally attractive with a certain lightness that contrasts with the late medieval-style Sacred Heart Seminary across Chicago Boulevard. Kahn designed an attractive triple entry through a small arcade for this synagogue. The interior also received great attention from Kahn and his colleagues, including impressive wooden trusses with an elaborately decorated ark wall.

Toward the end of his life, Kahn recalled, with obvious satisfaction and tongue firmly in cheek: "When I began, the real architects would design only museums, cathedrals, capitols, monuments. The office boy was considered good enough to do factory buildings. I'm still that office boy designing factories. I have no dignity to be impaired." Albert Kahn died in 1942. In 1941, he earned \$486,936 - that year's eighth-highest combined salary-and-compensation package in the U.S. (72% of which went for taxes).

# JHSM

## Welcomes These New Members

### CHRONICLERS

Eunice & Milton Ring

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Susan Birndorf  
Rhonda Brown  
Elayne Gross  
Andrew Gutman  
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Arthur Lieberman  
Amanda McGauley  
Cyril Moscow  
Randi & Stuart Sakwa  
Aaron Scholnik  
Robert S. Sher  
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Anita & Ron Taylor  
Barbara & Larry Weiss

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Sandy & Will Adler  
Julie & Lawrence August  
Julie & Phil Barr  
Wren Beaulie-Hack  
Paula Berger  
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Julie Blair  
Adam Blanck  
David J. Blatt  
Marshall Blau  
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Margo & Walter Caplan  
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Craig Erlich  
Melissa Kaplan-Estrin & Teviah Estrin  
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Ben Falik  
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Francee Ford  
Laini & Larry Freed  
Joan Freeman  
Marilyn Friedberg  
Arnold Garber  
Eleanor & Marty Garfinkel  
Dan Ginis  
Eileen Gittleman  
Linda Gomez  
Illana Greenberg  
Renée Durbin & Robert Greenberger  
Greenfield Noodle Company  
Kerry Greenhut

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Sandy & James Hack  
Hilda Hamburger  
Shirley Hyman  
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Dana & Richard Loewenstein  
Dr. Sheldon Plotnik  
& Phyllis Loewenstein  
Carolyn Lowe  
Leslie Magy  
Nancy & Dr. Philip Margolis  
Fran Martin  
Myrna & Newell Miller  
Muriel & Bernie Moray  
Jodi & Dr. Kevin Neff  
Sandra & Martin Nessel  
Dr. Donald Newman  
Eileen & Richard Polk

# JHSM

## Welcomes These New Members

Karen Pollak  
Judy & Larry Pazol  
Rhoda Raderman  
Bernard Remer  
Lisa Rich  
Dr. Ernest Ring  
Elaine & Robert Robins  
Estelle Cantor Robinson  
Andrea Roisman  
Iris & Howard Rosen  
Shelley Roth  
Judith & Michael Samson  
Andrea Hartman & Tom Serowik  
Diane Zogut & Robert Shapiro  
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Francie & Gary Snyder  
Arielle Sokol  
Carol Sole  
Andrew Stein  
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June & Richard Swartz  
Marcia & Arnie Tanzman  
Temple B'nai Israel- Petosky  
Debby & Dr. David Tukul  
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Sandra & Robert Weitz  
Barbara Wenokur  
Jean Willens  
Roz Wine  
Rita & Lawrence Winer  
Steve Wolock  
Ralph Woronoff  
Rabbi Jeremy Yoskowitz  
Norma Zelch

## HERITAGE COUNCIL

### NEW HERITAGE COUNCIL MEMBERS

Nancy Welber & Richard Barr  
Barbara & Sheldon Cohn  
Detroit Tigers Foundation, an affiliate of Ilitch Charities  
Jaqueline & Larry Elkus  
Linda K. & Harold Z. Friedman  
Elaine Geeenspan  
C. Michael Kojaian  
Marlene & Ed Malkin  
Mendelson Kornblum Orthopedics & Spine Specialists  
Myrna & Spencer Partrich  
Maida Portnoy  
The Sylvia Pevin & George Pevin Foundation  
Princeton Enterprises LLC  
Harriet & Alvin Saperstein  
Norma Jean Shufro  
Ronna & Richard Silverman  
Michigan Humanities Council

*From May 15, 2015, through April 21, 2016*

THE JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN  
MAKES EVERY ATTEMPT TO ACCOUNT ACCURATELY  
FOR ALL FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS. IF YOUR NAME  
DOES NOT APPEAR ABOVE OR IS INCORRECT,  
WE APOLOGIZE AND ASK THAT YOU CONTACT  
OUR OFFICE TO CORRECT THE ERROR.

# JHSM

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## TRIBUTES

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RUTH ADLER SCHNEE  
CHARLIE ARMSTRONG

DEEDE AUSTER  
STEVE BALLMER  
DINA BERDY  
LAURA BERMAN  
MR. & MRS. LAWRENCE BERRY  
WENDY ROSE BICE

Laurie Blume

LORI BOLKOSKY  
MICHAEL BROOKS  
JUDITH & BERNARD CANTOR

BARBARA & SHELDON COHN  
ARNIE COLLENS

JIM DEUTCHMAN  
JUDY & CHUCK DOMSTEIN  
CHUCK DOMSTEIN  
CHUCK DOMSTEIN  
ELAINE & EUGENE DRIKER  
JAN DURECKI

JACQUI & LARRY ELKUS  
LARRY ELKUS  
REBECCA & GIL FELDMAN  
MARCY FELDMAN  
IRV FRIEDMAN  
JOY GAINES-FRIEDLER  
RUTHE GOLDSTEIN

**On receiving the 2015 Kresge Eminent Artist Award** from JHSM Officers & Board  
**With congratulations on receiving JHSM's Volunteer of the Year Award**  
from Barbara & Jerry Cook

**Wishing you a speedy recovery** from Dorothy & Arnold Collens

**On your Bar Mitzvah** from Judith & Bernard Cantor

**On a speedy recovery** from JHSM Officers & Board

**On your retirement** from JHSM Officers & Board

**On the engagement of your daughter, Kate** from Jacqui & Larry Elkus

**Wishing you a speedy and complete recovery** from Dorothy & Arnold Collens,  
Barbara & Jerry Cook, Marilyn & Fred Krainen, Donna & Michael Maddin, Beverly Siegel,  
JHSM Officers & Board

**With congratulations on receiving JHSM's Volunteer of the Year Award**

from Wendy & Gary Bice, Barbara & Jerry Cook, Janice & Chris Billmeyer

**Wishing you a speedy recovery** from JHSM Officers & Board

**On receiving the Hillel International Edgar M. Bronfman Award** from JHSM Officers & Board

**With congratulations on your 65th wedding anniversary** from Wendy & Gary Bice, Denny Brown,  
Peggy Daitch & Peter Remington, Lois & Harvey Freeman, Edie & Donn Resnick, Barbara Rosen,  
Aimee Ergas & Tor Shwayder, Kathleen Straus & Walter Shapero, Mary Lou Zieve, JHSM Officers & Board

**In your honor** from Claudia Sills

**On your commitment to Sunday's exceptional tour of the Albert Kahn properties;  
also the BBAT tour you gave of the Eastern Market was terrific** from Jacqui & Larry Elkus

**Wishing you a speedy recovery** from JHSM Officers & Board

**On the Bar Mitzvah of your grandson, Doron** from JHSM Officers & Board

**As a thank you for a copy of a 1951 Centralite** from Lawrence Steel & Family

**In your honor** from Stefa Kupfer

**On the Bat Mitzvah of your granddaughter, Emma** from JHSM Officers & Board

**On your receiving the Leonard N. Simons History Award** from Cindy Bolokofsky,  
Barbara & Jerry Cook, Peggy & Dennis Frank, Lois & Harvey Freeman, Barbara & Jonathan Haber,  
Rochelle Nelson, Audrey Zupemore

**On the birth of your granddaughter, Josephine Liora Elkus** from JHSM Officers & Board

**Wishing you a speedy recovery** JHSM officers & Board

**On the birth of your daughter, Atarah** from Barbara & Jerry Cook

**On receiving the JCRC 2015 Activist Award** from JHSM Officers & Board

**On your birthday** from Annette Friedman

**On the wonderful Memoir Writers Class you teach** from Gail Langer

**In appreciation for your special kindness** from Joyce & Dr. George Blum and Family

# JHSM

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## TRIBUTES

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BARBARA GOODMAN

NEIL GOROSH

CAROLYN GREENBERG

NANCY GROSFELD

DR. MARTIN HERMAN

TEM HORWITZ

JHSM OFFICERS & BOARD

JHSM-YEARBOOK COMMITTEE

BERNARD JONAS

RABBI SAMUEL E. KARFF

MARILYN KRAINEN

MARILYN & FRED KRAINEN

PROF. MARION KRZYZOWSKI

MICHAEL MADDIN

MICHAEL MADDIN

DONNA & MICHAEL MADDIN

SANDRA MATTHEWS

ANNETTE & RUSSELL MESKIN

DAVID OCLANDER

MARJORIE SAULSON

PHYLLIS SCHWARTZ

BURT SHIFMAN

HARRIET SIDEN

RUDY SIMONS

GERALD SUKENIC

DAVID TECHNER

BARBARA & LARRY TRAISSON

JEANNIE WEINER

RACHEL &

RABBI HERBERT YOSKOWITZ

**On receiving the ZOA-Michigan Region Israel Lifetime Achievement Award**

*from JHSM Officers & Board*

**With best wishes for a very successful term as President** *from Barbara & Jerry Cook*

**On being an 8 Over 80 recipient** *from HSM Officers & Board*

**On receiving the Fred M. Butzel Memorial Award for distinguished community service**

*from JHSM Officers & Board*

**On being an 8 Over 80 recipient** *from JHSM Officers & Board*

**On your leadership in funding the restoration of South Haven Synagogue**

*from Barbara & Jerry Cook*

**On the Youth Curriculum presentation at Temple Israel** *from Amy Chimovitz*

**In gratitude for the historic yearbook photos** *from Dave Polen*

**On being an 8 Over 80 recipient** *from JHSM Officers & Board*

**On your new book** *from Rabbi Herbert Yoskowitz*

**On a speedy recovery** *from Dorothy & Arnold Collens, JHSM Officers & Board*

**On the birth of your first great-granddaughter, Karinne** *from JHSM Officers & Board*

**In your honor** *from The Jewish Study Group: Pola & Howard Friedman, Bobbie & Don Blitz, Donna & Michael Maddin, Linda & Paul Goldsmith, Elizabeth Tam, and Sharon & Martin Hart*

**On your Presidency of the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan** *from Judith & Bernard Cantor, Barbara & Jerry Cook, Anna & Yale Levin, Janet & Bob Sher, Jeannie Weiner*

**In your honor** *from Andrew Gutman*

**As a thank you for hosting the Levine Family for such a wonderful week-end**

*from The Levine Family*

**On your 75th Birthday** *from Dr. Robert Matthews*

**On being honored by Stand with Us** *from Annette Friedman*

**With best wishes for success as principal of Central Collegiate Academy**

*from Barbara & Jerry Cook*

**In your honor** *from Margaret & Mark Eichner*

**On your special birthday** *from Laurie & David Blume*

**On being an 8 Over 80 recipient** *from JHSM Officers & Board*

**In your honor** *from Helgard & Irwin Field*

**On your birthday** *from Mary Lou Zieve*

**On your continued good health** *from JHSM Officers & Board*

**On your support after the death of my mother, Jeanette Cook** *from Barbara & Jerry Cook*

**On your 60th anniversary** *from Nancy & Harold Josephson*

**On the birth of your great-grandson, Gershon** *from Dorothy & Arnold Collens*

**On the birth of your grandson, Jonah Alexander Yoskowitz** *from JHSM Officers & Board*

# In Memoriam.

WE FONDLY REMEMBER...

MARILYN ACKER

Wendy & Gary Bice  
JHSM Officers & Board

IRINA ALLWEISS

JHSM Officers & Board

DEBORAH FINGOLD ARONSON

Judith & Bernard Cantor  
Barbara & Jerry Cook

DR. MAX BARDENSTEIN

JHSM Officers & Board

SOPHIE BARKMAN

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RAYMOND BECKER

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KAREN BERDY

JHSM Officers & Board

DR. MAX BETTMAN

JHSM Officers & Board

EDWIN BLADEN

Paul Bladen

IRVING BRATEMAN

JHSM Officers & Board

DR. EASTON BRODSKY

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JODY CANTOR

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BEVERLY CANVASSER

Wendy & Gary Bice

MICHAEL COLE

Diane Jacobs  
Judy & David Jacobs  
Linda Yellin

DONALD CUTLER

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JACOB DRIKER

Barbara & Jerry Cook  
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FLORENCE FEINSTEIN

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DR. ROBERT FELDMAN

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Judith & Bernard Cantor  
Jacqui & Larry Elkus  
Merle & Richard Leland  
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FLORA HOMMEL

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Jonathan Hyams  
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MARTIN KELLMAN

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WILLIAM KRASNICK

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JACOB KROHNGOLD

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RUTH KROLL

JHSM Officers & Board

DR. HENRY KRYSAL

JHSM Officers & Board

MARTIN LANDAY

JHSM Officers & Board

# In Memoriam.

WE FONDLY REMEMBER...

TONY LEE

Aimee Ergas & Tor Shwayder

SOL LIPSON

Ruth & Jim Grey

MILTON S. MARWIL

Sarah Lamstein

MARCIA MEYERS

Marla & Neil Gorosh  
JHSM Officers & Board

MARVIN MINTZ

Wendy & Gary Bice

SELMA FLORENCE OVSHINKY

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HAROLD S. PODOLSKY

Shirley Podolsky  
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GERALDINE RAZNIK

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Judy & David Jacobs

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DEBBY SCHILLING

JHSM Officers & Board

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Margery Jablin

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FLORENCE SCHUMAN

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SAMI SEMP

Ellen Cole  
Julie Zalla & Family

ESTHER SHERMAN

Ellen Cole  
Julie Zalla & Family

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Liz & Les Kannon

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Aimee Ergas & Tor Shwayder  
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Harriet Siden  
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HARRY WEBERMAN

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BRUCE JEROME WEINER

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Peggy & Dennis Frank  
Ruth & Jim Grey  
Margery Jablin  
Liz & Les Kannon  
Risha Ring  
Aimee Ergas & Tor Shwayder  
Tracy & Michael Weissman  
JHSM Officers & Board

DR. JOSEPH WEISS

Judith & Bernard Cantor  
JHSM Officers & Board

ELIZABETH WEISS

JHSM Officers & Board

LOIS ZUSSMAN

JHSM Officers & Board

*(President's Report continued from pg. 1)*

- FOCUS on the most important tasks, do them well, and stay within our mission ~ We continue to make this a priority.
- Secure a healthy FUTURE through strategic planning, updating our bylaws and systems, and collaborating where beneficial ~ Accomplished.
- FINALIZE: Bite off what we can chew and get it done, using the best people and methodologies ~ Trying hard to apply this to everything we do.
- Encourage volunteers to select their FAVORITE responsibilities ~ Yes, we have.

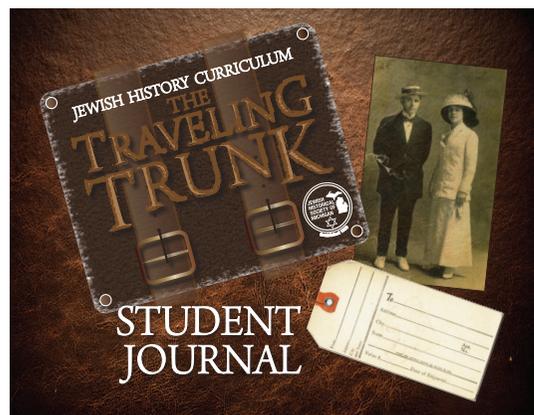
We have made great strides toward achieving these and other goals. In December 2014, we celebrated having one thousand JHSM members! A year later, in December 2015, we broke the 1,100-member barrier. Our goal is to increase that total by another ten percent in 2016, a goal easily accomplished with the ambassadorship of our current members and with our newly established membership committee, led by Jacqueline Elkus and Ed Malkin.



*The past year included four tremendously successful explorations including the Buildings of Albert Kahn: Detroit and the March 3, 2016, Insider's Tour of Orchestra Hall, pictured here. Photo by Elayne Gross.*

Each year, JHSM presents thoughtful, inspirational, and educational events that celebrate, share, and bring to life Michigan's Jewish history. Our JHSM Jewish History Curriculum, for example, was presented to more than 325 middle-school students from eleven Detroit area religious schools. These students participated in the JHSM Settlers to Citizens Bus Tour of Historic Jewish Detroit and The Traveling Trunk, an in-class curriculum. This entire program has been made possible by donor contributions and a Hermelin/Davidson Center for Congregation Excellence

grant. We are deeply grateful to the Marjorie and Maxwell Jospey Foundation and the Berman Foundation for funding the newly created position of education program coordinator. Congratulations to Ruthe Goldstein, Jeannie Weiner, and Carol Weisfeld, our JHSM Jewish History Curriculum chairpersons, and to all of those who worked diligently to create this educational masterpiece.



*The Traveling Trunk, a customized curriculum for middle-school students, examines the organizations, people, and events that shaped our state's Jewish history.*

In the past year, JHSM has hosted more than 60 programs including adult and youth tours, private tours for organizations and families, our new Nosh Gen series, presentations by members of our speakers bureau, and the Michigan Women Who Have Made a Difference Jewish Voices Project. JHSM also coordinates programs with myriad organizations and agencies, and provides services to our communities statewide. Programs have been held in Ann Arbor, Battle Creek/Kalamazoo, Flint, Lansing, Grand Rapids, South Haven, and Northern Michigan. Our statewide activity **truly** makes us the Jewish Historical Society of Michigan.



*JHSM's Yearbook Collection has been showcased at several events, and will soon grow even more with the major donation of a large private collection.*

There is even more to celebrate:

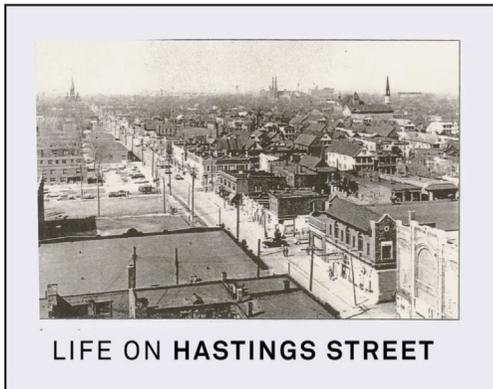
- Our boards and committees are larger and stronger, and JHSM operates under a balanced budget.

- J-Cycle will be six years in the running this August. I'm proud to say I have been on all thus far. Expanding our participation to include our children and their spouses and friends made for a great family experience.

- The JHS of Michigan Heritage Foundation (holder of our assets) is a separate entity that has expanded its scope and board, and will be directly involved in our increased fund-development efforts. In fact, this has been a terrific year for building our endowment and financial strengths. A major gift from the William Davidson Foundation will enable us to redesign our website!

- In February, JHSM relocated to a larger, private office space within the Jewish Community Center. Our new space is just what we needed with our growing programming and staff. We welcome visitors!

- Our eight-minute mini-documentary, "Life on Hastings Street," produced in partnership with the Jewish Community Archives and funded by the David-Horodoker Organization, has been shown and enjoyed many times, and resonates with every generation and every community about how disparate groups of immigrants and settlers became citizens.



- I'm very proud to have helped make possible the collaboration between JHSM and the Detroit Historical Society to host Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American, a traveling exhibition curated by the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. The exhibit, opening September 8, will include locally curated content. Many thanks to our exhibition co-chairpersons, Cathy and James Deutchman (along with my wife Donna

and me), and to our many financial donors, including the Eugene & Marcia Applebaum Family Foundation.

My parting words are these: Our future is strong. JHSM's membership roster is more robust than ever. Consider joining our growing corps of volunteers (we'll train you), participate in a tour or host an intimate program at your home. Donate a yearbook, make an additional monetary contribution, or think of us in your estate plan. Annual membership to JHSM is \$36. Tell a friend about us, or better yet, give them the gift of JHSM membership.

It has been an honor to work closely with so many JHSM volunteers and board members. Especially meaningful has been the contact with our active delegation of past presidents. I am continually humbled by this exemplary group of individuals who eagerly share their wisdom and assistance. I also wish to thank the officers, the board, and the advisory committee for all their support. Our outstanding staff—executive director Wendy Rose Bice, education program coordinator Tracy Weissman, and administrative assistant Liz Kannon—have made a terrific team this past year.



Michael and Donna Maddin, May 2015

To Donna, my wife of 50 years, thank you for your love and support, and for joining me on so many of our JHSM adventures—and for putting up with this "historic object," namely me.

Most importantly, I wish to express appreciation to the members, volunteers, and friends whose smiling faces and great comments about JHSM's work and mission have made these past two years so worthwhile and rewarding.

It's been an honor and a pleasure, and I look forward to enjoying our society in the future in my new role as an active past president.

*"The sand is still flowing in our hourglasses."* Make every day count, and join our fun for interesting and fulfilling educational programs and friendships galore.

# The A. Alfred Taubman Heritage Council

AN ENDOWMENT FUND TO ENSURE THE FUTURE OF THE  
JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY OF MICHIGAN IN THE 21<sup>st</sup> CENTURY

## GUARDIAN - \$100,000

The Eugene Applebaum Family Foundation  
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## COLLECTORS - \$500+

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Judy and Bernard Cantor  
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Aimee Ergas and Tor Shwayder  
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*\*Of Blessed Memory  
As of April 21, 2016*

*The Jewish Historical Society of Michigan makes every attempt to account accurately for all financial contributions. If your name does not appear above or is incorrect, we apologize and ask that you contact our office to correct the error.*

# JHMS THANKS THESE FUNDERS

During the past twelve months, JHSM has received the following grants from funders whose gifts enable us to focus on specific areas of organizational growth.

**William Davidson Foundation** (*JHSM's largest gift in organizational history*): redevelopment of JHSM's website and an endowed gift to the JHS of Michigan Heritage Foundation endowment.

**Marjorie and Maxwell Jospey Foundation:** two-year grant to support Educational Program Coordinator (through 2016); support for Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American

**Michigan Humanities Council Heritage Grants:** funds to conduct a series of Michigan Women Who Made a Difference workshops and to host a one-day conference.

**Mandell and Madeleine Berman Foundation:** two-year grant to support Educational Program Coordinator (through 2017); and general operational funds.

**Eugene and Marcia Applebaum Family Foundation:** support for Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American.

**Hermelin-Davidson Center for Congregational Excellence** (*Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit*): continuation funding for JHSM Youth Education Curriculum: Traveling Trunk educational program and Settlers to Citizens Bus Tour of historic Jewish Detroit.

**Ravitz Foundation:** to support the creation of the Defending Freedom bus tour (late 2016), and general operation funds.

**David-Horodoker Organization:** for the creation of JHSM's mini-documentary, "Life on Hastings Street."

**Stanley and Judith Frankel Family Foundation:** support for Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American.

*These grants, together with the kind and generous donations of our members, inspire us and help us to preserve, share, and celebrate Michigan's Jewish history.*

## HOW TO SUPPORT JHSM

**DONATE:** Add to your annual contribution or become a Heritage Council member. Heritage Council members are life members of JHSM and receive all membership benefits plus special recognition and an invitation to our annual Heritage Council Donor event. Heritage Council donations are cumulative. **MEMBERSHIP:** Give a gift of membership to a friend or family member. **TRIBUTE:** Commemorate a milestone or send a special note of remembrance. **BEQUEST:** Remember JHSM in your estate planning. Donate your yearbooks to JHSM's Yearbook Collection. **PURCHASE:** Order your copy of *Michigan Women Who Made A Difference*. **VOLUNTEER:** Help us grow and serve our communities. Host an event, docent, research or write for us.

All donations, contributions, and purchases can be made by visiting our website ([www.michjewishhistory.org](http://www.michjewishhistory.org)), calling our office, 248-432-5517, or by mailing this form, with a check payable to JHSM, 6600 W. Maple Rd., West Bloomfield, MI 48322

Name \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ A donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Join the Heritage Council with a gift of \$500 and above \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ I'd like to be contacted regarding a planned gift to JHSM

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ A \$36 gift of membership for: (NAME, ADDRESS) \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Please contact me. I'd like to get involved and volunteer.

**TOTAL: \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**2015-2016  
JHSM OFFICERS & DIRECTORS**

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 Dr. Henry Green\* (1975-1977)  
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 Phillip Applebaum (1981-1983)  
 Bette A. Roth Young (1983-1985)  
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 Evelyn Noveck\* (1986-1988)  
 Adele W. Staller (1988-1990)  
 Gilbert Borman (1990-1994)  
 Judith Levin Cantor (1994-1996)  
 James D. Grey (1997-2001)  
 Joan R. Braun (2000-2002)  
 Robert D. Kaplow (2002-2005)  
 Ellen S. Cole (2005-2009)  
 Arnold Collens (2008-2012)

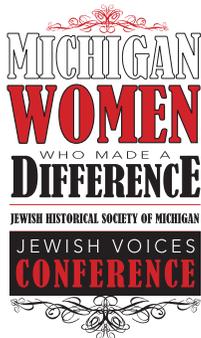
*\*of Blessed Memory*

**ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF**

Wendy Rose Bice, *Director*  
 Tracy Weissman, *Educational Program Coordinator*  
 Elizabeth Kannon, *Administrative Assistant*  
 Aimee Ergas, *Research Director*



**UPCOMING EVENTS**



**MONDAY,  
JUNE 27, 2016  
9 AM - 3:30 PM**

TEMPLE EMANUEL  
 1715 FULTON ST. E.  
 GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN 49503  
 BUS TRANSPORTATION FROM  
 WEST BLOOMFIELD AVAILABLE.

**Michigan Women Who Made a Difference Jewish Voices Conference**

Women and men from across the state will convene to share the stories and achievements of Michigan's Jewish women who helped to build our communities.

The MWWMD Conference includes sessions on preserving women's stories, Jewish women in American sport history, excerpts from "Becoming Dr. Ruth," and a panel discussion on "Cultural Barriers Faced by Jewish Women Yesterday and Today."

**NO CHARGE TO ATTEND; INCLUDES LUNCH.  
 WWW.MICHJEWISHHISTORY.ORG  
 248-432-5517**



**SUNDAY,  
AUGUST 21, 2016  
8 STOPS & 17 MILES  
TONS OF SMILES**

J-Cycle is a bicycle tour of Detroit designed to celebrate the exciting developments happening in and around the city and to explore its Jewish history in an up-close and personal way. Now in its sixth year, the event, which has sold out each of its five previous years, features an all-new route that begins and ends at New Center Park. Over the course of 17 miles, J-Cycle 6 will explore Detroit's New Center area, Boston-Edison district, the Oakland Ave./North End of the city and the Dexter-Davidson region including a visit to Central High School.

**\$36 REGISTRATION FEE / \$25 STUDENTS  
 (THROUGH AUGUST 12, 2016 / \$45 ON EVENT DAY)**

PRESENTED IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE  
 RECONSTRUCTIONIST CONGREGATION OF DETROIT,  
 THE ISAAC AGREE DOWNTOWN SYNAGOGUE AND  
 HILLEL METRO DETROIT. SUPPORTED BY CULLIGAN WATER SYSTEMS,  
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