



RABBI'S REFLECTIONS

RABBI ADAM SCHEIER

rabbi@theshaar.org

hat does one do if they are stuck - if the ideas aren't coming, if the progress isn't happening at an expected pace?

One approach: keep moving. I recently read a report that presented research, from the University of Illinois, that observed increased brain function after just 20 minutes of activity. This led to increased cognitive achievement, which, in turn, leads to progress.

The message is simple: If you're stuck, keep moving.

This is a very Jewish message. To stagnate is to lose ground. It is significant that the word for Jewish law is *halacha*, which comes from the Hebrew word that connotes movement. We are marching forward, and rather than freezing in time, our tradition maintains a relevance to contemporary challenges.

In rabbinic texts, the Jewish people are sometimes compared to fish. (This idea spawns from our patriarch Jacob's blessing to Joseph, *vayidgu larov*, which is often translated as a blessing to grow like fish.) One understanding of this comparison is that fish are required

to continuously move – extracting oxygen from the water that passes over the gills – in order to stay alive.

This idea also applies to communal life. As a congregation, we must not stand still. In fact, we are constantly engaged in building – more and better, striving for the perfection that is impossible but forever in our sights. In the past year, we have been blessed to welcome two significant Shaar team members, who have and will help us progress in many different areas. As our Director of Adult Learning, Rabbi Mark Fishman has made a significant contribution to the intellectual and spiritual life of our congregation; we are excited to see the continued growth of the Shaar Learning Centre in the vear ahead. Rabba Briah Cahana has recently commenced her mandate as Director of Member Care and Outreach. Her sensitivity and infectious love of Jewish life will help to bring our community members closer to each other and closer to the Shaar - embracing the sense of family within this large and diverse congregation. I am confident that these additions to our spiritual and intellectual service will bring great blessings to the Shaar.

While these are promising and exciting times, change and progress can also be difficult. Rabba Rachel Kohl Finegold's ascending to the position of spiritual leader at Moriah Congregation in Illinois will be a significant loss for our congregation. She means a great deal to so many in our community, and, on a personal note, my family and I have been blessed with a wonderful friendship with Rabba Rachel and her family. We wish Rabba Rachel, Rabbi Avi, Kinneret, Nedivah, and Hadar only success in their new endeavors. They will always be an integral part of our Shaar community.

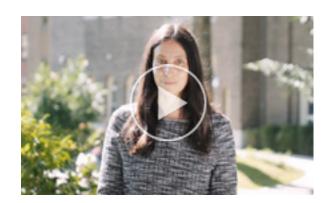
Every year, there is an effort to find meaning in the number of the Hebrew year. This year, 5784, is represented by the letters משפ״. It has been suggested that these letters form an acronym spelling the words, תהא , may it be a breakthrough year. The Shaar, deeply rooted in 177 years of tradition, proudly marches forward, with confidence and joy, into the coming year.

May it be a year of blessing for all.

Abby, Aviya, Ayelet, Annael, Allegra, and Arella join me in wishing our beloved Shaar family a *Shanah Tovah u'Metukah*.

INTRODUCING RABBA BRIAH CAHANA

WATCH: Get to know our new Director of Member Care and Outreach



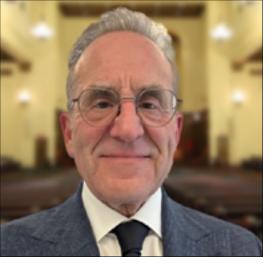


BOLD BEGINNINGSWITH RABBI SCHEIER

Thursdays - 2 PM; October 12, 19, 26, November 2

Exploring the themes of Rabbi Moshe Shapiro through the lens of language, textual interpretation and spirituality.

REGISTER



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

JOSEPH PAPERMAN admin@theshaar.org

he Days of Awe are upon us; with that in mind we take the time to reflect on the past year and to contemplate what lies ahead. It is said that God inscribes our fate for the coming year on Rosh Hashanah, to be sealed in the Book of Life on Yom Kippur. The Days of Awe are a time for *Teshuvah*, *Tefilah*, and *Tzedakah*; a time to bring our families together, a time for our children to come home, and a time for us to once again welcome you all to the Shaar.

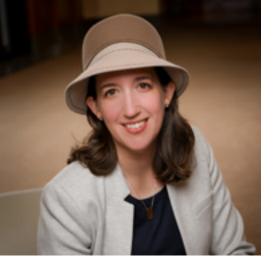
As I approach the one-year anniversary of proudly serving as your President for a second time, I cannot help but be reminded of how blessed we are as a congregational family. Our esteemed clergy and spiritual leaders Rabbi Adam Scheier, Rabba Rachel Finegold, Cantor Gideon Zelermyer, and our Ritual Director Yosi Even-Hen continue to inspire us all. We are "the Shaar" - a congregation rich in history and tradition, and home to close to 1300 families.

With an engaged team of Officers and Board of Trustees, a remarkable administration, active Chairs of committees, and world class programs and services we have so much to be grateful for and so much to be proud of.

We are all working diligently to ensure that the Shaar continues to remain at the forefront of the Montreal Jewish community. During the last year, we have revitalized our adult education offerings and created The Shaar Learning Center. Tuesday Night Learning is back in person! We are working on new and innovative ways to ensure our continuity through new membership and young family outreach, as well as fiscal responsibility. Our major renovations are underway and the refurbishing of the Chapel and upstairs Lobby are slated to begin right after the High Holy Days. Thank you to Marvin Corber for agreeing to chair the relaunched Shaar Family Capital Campaign to help us reach our current Campaign goals.

Following the High Holy Days, we will bid farewell to Rabba Rachel Finegold as she embarks on a new chapter in her professional life. It is with great appreciation and gratitude that we thank her for the amazing 10 years she spent at the Shaar. The positive impact she had on our community was significant and trailblazing, and we will be forever grateful. We wish Rabba Rachel and Rabbi Avi Finegold, as well as Kinneret, Nadivah and Hadar, the best of luck and l'hitraot.

From our shul to your homes, from my family to yours, I wish you a *Shanah Tovah u'Metukah*. May you be inscribed and sealed for a sweet and healthy year.



LOOKING BACK, MOVING FORWARD

RABBA RACHEL KOHL FINEGOLD

rkf@theshaar.org

ife can only be understood backwards; but it must be lived forwards." It was the philosopher Soren Kierkegaard, who was expressing something fundamental about the way we operate as human beings. As we go through our days, we need to be constantly looking ahead, planning whatever is next in life. Certainly during this holiday season, we plan for the year to come, perhaps setting goals or expressing our hopes and wishes for our loved ones in the year ahead.

Yet, it is when we pause to look back at what is behind us that we can better understand where we are heading. In the Torah, Rosh Hashanah is referred to as Yom Hazikaron, the Day of Remembrance. At the start of the year, our task is to remember; to consider our past so that we may live better in the present. The process of Teshuvah, repentance, is one of mining our previous behaviors with the goal of self-discovery. We make sense of our past in order to move ahead with greater awareness and a sense of responsibility for the future.

As my family and I prepare to depart this very special community, we have been reflecting on the past ten years. We have shared so many moments, large and small, which have built deep and lasting connections with the Shaar families, and we are bringing

these memories with us into our future. Avi and I are grateful for having shared so many Shabbat and holiday services, schmoozes at Kiddush, celebrating at weddings and Bar/Bat Mitzvah milestones, and standing together during difficult times. We can look back and see the ways in which our children have become an integral part of this community and have learned what it means to be together with others both in good times and in bad. We are looking back at this past decade with gratitude and appreciation, as we move on to the next phase in our family's journey.

Wishing you a Shanah Tovah u'Metukah!

A SPECIAL EVENING HONOURING RABBA RACHEL

Wednesday, October 4 - 7:30-9:30 PM

Please join us for a special evening as we express our gratitude and extend our best wishes to her.

RSVP

SEND A TRIBUTE MESSAGE



MAY IT STICK

YOSI EVEN-HEN yevenhen@theshaar.org

Rosh Hashanah, Yom Kippur, along with Sukkot and Shemini Atzeret, usher in a season of reflection and renewal. It is a time when families gather and celebrate the beginning of what is hoped will be a sweet year ahead.

A central tradition, and perhaps one of the most recognizable and practiced rituals of the entire year, involves dipping apples in honey.

Most of us know and associate this ritual with symbolizing the hope for a year filled with blessings and sweetness. This custom traces back to the desire for a fruitful and joyful life.

But why specifically honey? When the Torah describes the land of Israel as being the 'Land flowing with milk and honey', in actuality, the Torah is referring to dates, the fruit that comes from the Palm tree and not actually honey (that comes from bees). So why don't we use dates?

And here I want to offer a few reasons. First is the colour. The golden viscosity of honey reflects the optimism and light that we want the New Year to be filled with. As opposed to dates, honey is also translucent. We hope for a year that is not masked with uncertainties.

We want a 'clear' year in which our vision and commitment is unrestricted and unblocked...

Furthermore, being a liquid, honey runs and is not constrained by shape or form. It will cover any surface shape as well as all crevices it runs over. So too, we hope that blessings and sweetness cover our entire year, every twist and turn.

Lastly, as the honey runs, it attaches itself to the surface and is also sticky and adherent. As we share the apples covered in honey, we inevitably spill honey that covers a variety of things: plates, cups, utensils and perhaps the table cover as well. We hope that the blessings of the New Year stick to everything in our life; that it flows and is not constrained.

As we hear the Shofar sounds and prayers resounding, I hope that we are all reminded to savor life's sweetness and embrace the promise of new beginnings.

Brigitte, Raphael, Nathaniel and I, take this opportunity to wish you and your loved ones a *Shanah Tovah u'Metukah* and *G'mar Chatimah Tovah*!





CANTOR GIDEON ZELERMYER gyz@theshaar.org



CONOR O'NEIL, *Director of Music* coneil@theshaar.org

MUSIC AT THE SHAAR

his year feels different, doesn't it?

As we approach the High Holy Days of 5784, we have our usual sense of optimism and purpose, but this year, there's a new level of dedication and focus.

Last year, we went into the High Holy Day period with so many question marks: would our Sanctuary again be filled? What would the energy be like in the room? Could we really just go back to how things were before?

This year, we enter our holiest (and busiest!) month with the joy and confidence borne from a Westmount Centennial year bookended by 2 major musical milestones: the Sanctuary Rededication Service which took place on S'lichot night, September 17th 2022; and the gala concert, The Writings on the Walls, on May 18th 2023, the first major concert to take place in our beloved Sanctuary since before the COVID pandemic and a resounding success. And in the year in between those nights, we had a full slate of Shabbat Services, *Chagim*, weddings, online and in-person learning opportunities, and youth choir. We had it all.

So this year feels different, in that it feels ... normal.

חדש ימינו כקדם - Chadeish yameinu k'kedem - It feels like it is supposed to, as it did before.

May all of our prayers be answered, for good, in the new year ahead.

שנה טובה ומתוקה! Shanah Tovah um'tukah!





SHAAR HASHOMAYIM YOUTH CHOIR

Grades 2-6; Wednesdays • 4:30 - 5:30 PM

The Shaar Youth Choir has resumed and is gearing up for a High Holy Day performance! We are glad to have reconnected last year's cohort, but there is always room for new kids who love to sing. A fun and fulfilling activity with no experience necessary. A light snack will be served. Info: **Conor O'Neil**, Director of Music **coneil@theshaar.org**.



A NIGHT @ THE OPERA

Thursdays • 8 PM • Online October 12, 26, November 16, 30 & December 14

Join **Cantor Gideon Zelermyer** for a trip around the world of opera.

REGISTER



A NIGHT @ THE MOVIES

Thursdays • 8 PM • Online November 9 & 23

Conor O'Neil, Director of Music, will dive into the music of movies from new favorites to old classics.

REGISTER

LISTEN TO THE SOUNDS OF THE HIGH HOLY DAYS



1 BAR'CHU



2 KIDDUSH



3 UNTANEH TOKEF



4 M'LOCH



5 KI HINEI KACHOMER



6 Y'HI RATZON - SHOMEI'A KOL BICHYOT





A LOOK THROUGH OUR ARCHIVES

he past year has been significant for the Shaar's archives, beginning with the exhilarating discovery of the 1921 time capsule embedded in the synagogue's cornerstone. Though some documents suffered water damage, much has been recovered such as a collection of newspapers from the sealing day and coins minted in 1921. This discovery has prompted deeper reflection into how we, in the present, wish to be remembered by future generations. This was an exercise put into practice when we ran a workshop for the Bar and Bat Mitzvah groups, guiding them in crafting their own time capsules, to be opened 18 years from now.

The Archives & Museum Department was pleased to receive an investment from Digital Museums Canada, an affiliate of the Canadian Museum of History. This funding will facilitate the development of a digital exhibit chronicling the history of the Shaar in Westmount. Our team is fully immersed in the initial stages of this venture, poised for launch in late 2024. Over the course of the year, we have also had the privilege of engaging with numerous members of the Shaar family who have graciously donated interesting documents and artifacts all of which are helping bring our community's long history into greater detail.

As we approach the upcoming year, we have many exciting things for you to look forward to, including new displays and a course during Fall Tuesday Night Learning which will provide a behind-the-scenes look at work in the archives as well as fascinating forays into the Shaar's history.

Want to get involved? Have any questions? Have stories to share or material to donate? Get in with touch us!

Claire Berger, Chair & Hannah Srour-Zackon, Archivist museum@theshaar.org



- (L) A Yiddish newspaper featuring an article on the construction of the Shaar's building.
- (R) The 1921 Time Capsule as found in the cornerstone

IN THE NEWS:

- The CJN Daily Podcast: "Canada's oldest Ashkenazi congregation just recovered a 100-year-old time capsule on its milestone anniversary weekend"
- The Shaar Archives & Museum Receives Investment to Develop Online Exhibit, news release

READ OUR BLOG

HIGH HOLY DAYS

May this new year bring an opportunity to pray together in our sacred spaces, reignite relationships with old friends, and introduce ourselves to new ones.



WATCH: Rabbi Yonah Berman presents the Parallel Service Reimagined

VIEW THE SCHEDULE OF SERVICES

SERVICES IN THE MAIN SANCTUARY

We look forward to worshipping together in our magnificent sanctuary. Services will be led by Rabbi Adam Scheier, Rabba Rachel Kohl Finegold, Yosi Even-Hen, and Cantor Gideon Zelermyer with the Shaar Hashomayim Choir conducted by Conor O'Neil, Director of Music. All members are welcome to book seats. Contact Sheri Berkovic at sberkovic@theshaar.org or 514-937-9474 ext. 136.

PARALLEL SERVICES IN LANDE HALL

Join together in prayer, song and spirituality led by the charismatic team of Rabbi Yonah Berman and Cantor Michael Moshkovitz. This complete service will be a joyful and participatory experience emphasizing congregational singing. Seating will be intimate and conducive to participation, with no assigned seats. Members, nonmembers, and students are welcome to reserve spots. Contact Sheri Berkovic at sberkovic@theshaar.org or 514-937-9474 ext. 136.



LISTEN TO THE HIGH HOLY DAY PARALLEL SERVICE REPERTOIRE

HIGH HOLY DAY FAMILY EXPERIENCE

with Rabba Rachel Kohl Finegold Rosh Hashanah Days 1 & 2 and Yom Kippur 11:00 AM in the Chapel

A special experience for children of all ages and their grown-ups. Join us to reflect on the past year and celebrate the birthday of the world. Everyone is welcome to attend. REGISTER Membership not required.

ROSH HASHANAH AND YOM KIPPUR PROGRAMMING

HIGH HOLY DAYS: MAKING IT MEANINGFUL

Monday, September 11 • 7:30 PM

Rabbi Adam Scheier

"New Insights for the New Year"

Rabba Rachel Kohl Finegold

"The Difference Between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur"

Yosi Even-Hen

"Machzor Highlights - Getting Comfortable with the Prayer Structure"

REGISTER

BIRKAT HAKOHANIM

Tuesday, September 12 • 7:30 PM in the Main Sanctuary

Brush up on the procedure and blessings of Birkat Kohanim. To register, contact Yosi Even-Hen yevenhen@theshaar.org 514.937.9474 ext. 119





TASHLICH SERVICE

Sunday, September 17 • 5:30 PM in collaboration with Temple Emanu-El-Beth Sholom

Join us for a meaningful and welcoming tradition to cast off our sins for the Jewish New Year. Meet at the pond in Westmount Park. All are welcome.

YOM KIPPUR TEACH-IN

Monday, September 25 • 4 PM followed by Ne'ilah at 5:45 PM

"How the Optimism of the High Holy Days Will Inspire Us to See a Brighter Future for Israel."

Co-chaired by **Rhoda Vineberg** and **J. Stephen Lipper**

Moderated by J. Stephen Lipper

Panelists Julia Langleben, Consul General Paul Hirschson, and Martin Rosenthal

LEARN MORE

SUKKOT PROGRAMMING



CONGREGATIONAL SUKKAH DINNER

Friday, September 29 • Services at 6:30 PM Followed by dinner in the Sukkah.

Celebrate this beautiful holiday with your Shaar family and friends.

Presented by The Pearl and David Tobias Community Engagement Programme.

Adults: \$60; Children (4-15) \$35; Children (3 & under) free. Reservations required by September 26.

REGISTER

SUKKAH DECORATING FOR AGES 2-8

Thursday, September 28 • 4-6 PM Shaar Sukkah - Deitcher Courtyard

Join us for art activities to help decorate our sukkah and a pizza dinner. \$25 for 2 adults & 2 kids. \$10/person Grandparents are welcome.

REGISTER

TEEN LIMO SUKKAH HOP

Wednesday, October 4 • 6:30-8 PM • Grade 7 and up Drop off at the Shaar Sukkah. Pick-up at Rabbi Scheier's Sukkah.

REGISTER

In case of rain, all events will be moved inside.



SISTERHOOD SUKKAH LUNCHEON

Thursday, October 5 • 11:30 AM

Join us in the Shaar Sukkah with guest speaker **Dr. Amal Elsana Alh'jooj,** activist and Executive Director of International Community
Action Network. Amal will share her story along with insight
from her work at the intersection of community organizing and
peacebuilding in the Middle East and Canada. \$50 per person.
Deadline to register September 29.

REGISTER

YOUNG PROFESSIONAL SUKKOT DINNER

Friday, October 6 • 7:30 PM
For Young Professionals In their 20s and 30s

Join us for a festive meal in the Sukkah! \$36; If you need financial assistance, please contact jsterlin@theshaar.org. Reservations by Wednesday, October 4.

REGISTER

LULAV AND ETROG SETS

Complete your celebration of Sukkot with a set of the four species. Sets will be available for purchase from the Shaar. \$80. Limited supply available. 100% certified kosher. Deadline to order: September 26. Pick up day: Sunday, September 29 between 9 to 11 AM.

ORDER



SIMCHAT TORAH PROGRAMMING

5784 SIMCHAT TORAH HONOUREES

CLICK ON EACH NAME TO READ THEIR PERSONAL JOURNEY



DR. GERALD BATIST CHATAN TORAH



SYLVIE BISMUTH EISHET CHAYIL



GEOFFREY GELBER CHATAN BERESHIT

KIDS' SIMCHAT TORAH PARADE

Saturday Night, October 7 • 5:45 PM

Join us for a light pizza dinner, followed by a joyous Simchat Torah experience, beginning in the chapel and parading around the block!

After the parade, families are invited to stay for the congregational Hakafot dancing in the lobby (approx. 6:50PM) and the children's Aliyah on the bimah (approx. 7:30PM)

HONOUREE DINNER

Saturday, October 7

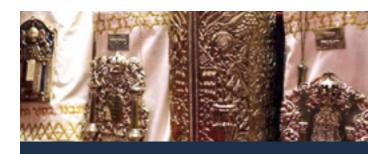
Following evening services and Hakafot

HONOUREE LUNCHEON

Sunday, October 8

Following morning services.

Presented by The Pearl and David Tobias Community Engagement Programme.



ALIYOT FOR SIMCHAT TORAH

It is customary for every member of the Congregation to be called to the Torah to receive an Aliyah. Aliyot are given on the morning of Simchat Torah. Please arrive early to participate in the Hakafot followed by the Torah readings.



Dear friends - Shalom!

This year we are delighted to offer you a really special line up of educational programming by the Shaar Learning Centre (SLC).

From weekly classes, to mini series, to a spruced up Tuesday Night Learning, to our new in-person courses and the launch of our highly anticipated 'Essentials of Judaism' course, there is something for everyone.

We look forward to seeing you in-person or on-line and learning together with you!

Rabbi Mark Fishman

LEARN. EXPERIENCE. GROW.

Inspired Jewish studies and hands-on courses allow each individual to experience growth, learning and traditional culture led by Rabbi Fishman

UPCOMING CLASSES

TO REGISTER: SHAARHASHOMAYIM.ORG/SLC

SEPTEMBER



WHY IS IT SO HARD TO LET GO? WITH RABBI MARK FISHMAN

Wednesday, September 13 • 1 PM • Online "Forgiving But Not Forgetting"

N'VI'IM: THE BOOK OF JUDGES WITH YOSI EVEN-HEN

Mondays beginning September 18 • 7:30 PM • Online
The consequences of disobedience - redemption through the graciousness of God.

CONVERSATIONAL HEBREW WITH YOSI EVEN HEN

Tuesdays • 8:15 AM following services • In-person Come for Minyan, stay for breakfast, and practice your Hebrew with Yosi and other friends! Everyone welcome.

OCTOBER

TAMING THE INNER CRITIC WITH RABBI MARK FISHMAN

Tuesdays beginning October 10 • 11:00 AM • Online

Why having a positive attitude toward others can revolutionize all our personal relationships.

HEBREW 3.0: BEYOND THE ALEPH BET WITH MERAV LUZ

Wednesdays beginning October 11 • 7 PM • In-person

For those who want to improve their reading skills.

INTRODUCTION TO HEBREW WITH MERAV LUZ

Wednesdays beginning October 11 • 8 PM • In-person

For those who want to learn to read the aleph bet.

BOLD BEGINNINGS WITH RABBI ADAM SCHEIER

Thursdays beginning October 12 • 2 PM • In-person

Exploring the themes of Rabbi Moshe Shapiro through the lens of language, textual interpretation, and spirituality.

THINK GOOD AND IT WILL BE GOOD: **BUILDING A LIFE OF PERSONAL WHOLENESS AND JOY** WITH RABBI DR. JOEL ZEFF

Mondays beginning October 16 • 12 PM • Online

Explore Rav Kook's fascinating models for cognitive reframing. This is not just another course - but an opportunity to make major strides towards greater personal wholeness and joy.

DOES JUDAISM STAND A CHANCE? WITH RABBI DR. MOSHE KOPPEL

Wednesdays beginning October 18 • 12 PM • Online

Exploring the challenges to traditional Judaism.

FROM CREATION TO THE FLOOD WITH RABBI DR. DAVID HARBATER

Tuesdays beginning October 24 • 12 PM • Online

We will examine the dual foundations of Judaism as they are presented in the opening chapters of Genesis.

#TALMUD WITH RABBA ABBY SCHEIER

Mondays • 11 AM • Check website for start date



THE ESSENTIALS OF JUDAISM

7:30 PM • In-person

For those looking to consolidate their learning or those coming to Judaism afresh. Taught by Rabbi Fishman and the clergy team.

Tuesday, October 24

What are lewish Values? with Rabbi Mark Fishman

Tuesday, October 31

What are the Ten Commandments?

with Rabbi Mark Fishman

Tuesday, November 7

The 70 Faces of the Torah with Rabbi Adam Scheier

Tuesday, December 5

Shamor v'Zachor: Shabbat Rest as Jewish Obligation or as World View

with Rabba Briah Cahana

NOVEMBER

ONE STORY, 5 PERSPECTIVES WITH AARON KROLLER

A four-week pre-recorded course with a live fifth class on Tuesday, November 14 • 7:30 PM • Online

Learn how modern philosophers have used the Akedah, or the Binding of Isaac, in their own religious thought including a study of one of the most profound of recent Jewish thinkers: Montreal and the Shaar's own Leonard Cohen.

WHAT IS KABBALAH? WITH DR. BITI ROY

Wednesdays beginning November 15 • 12 PM • Online An Introduction to Jewish Mysticism

ELU DEVARIM: WITH RABBA BRIAH CAHANA

Wednesdays beginning November 22 • 11 AM • In-person

INTRO TO TALMUD WITH RABBI DAVID WALLACH

Wednesdays beginning November 22 • 7:30 PM • In-person

As we lead up to Chanukah, we will study a piece from Tractate Shabbat dealing with the history and laws of Chanukah. We will learn the basics of what the Talmud is, key concepts and terms, and begin to enter into the world of Talmudic thinking.

SHABBATON SCHOLAR-IN-RESIDENCE & CONGREGATIONAL DINNER WITH DR. MARC SHAPIRO

Friday, November 17 • 6 PM

Dinner topic: "Are There Limits to What a Jew Must Believe?"

RESERVE

Shabbat, November 18 - Services at 8:45 AM

Sermon: "Rabbi Samson Raphael Hirsch's Two Major Ideas: Are They Still Relevant?"

Post-Kiddush discussion:

"Major Themes in the Philospophy of Rav Kook"



TUESDAY NIGHT LEARNING

FALL 2023 • FREE ADMISSION IN-PERSON • ALL WELCOME

From science and modern medicine to Judaism and pop culture, come together for an evening of inspiring conversation with influential thought leaders.

REGISTER

OCT 24

7:30 - 8:20 PM

THE ULTIMATE ACHIEVEMENT: THE NOBEL PRIZE
Dr. Joe Schwarcz

ADAM & EVE, CAIN AND ABEL
WHAT IS THE POINT OF THESE STORIES?
Rabbi Dr. David Harbater

UNWELCOME CHANGE: MYTHS AND FACTS
ABOUT MOURNING
Corrie Sirota

ESSENTIALS OF JUDAISM: WHAT ARE JEWISH VALUES? Rabbi Mark Fishman

8:30 - 9:20 PM

HONEST AGING: INSIDERS' GUIDE TO THE SECOND HALF OF LIFE Dr. Rosanne Leipzig

THE AMIDA: OPENING THE GATES
OF PRAYER
Rabba Briah Cahana

Hannah Srour-Zackon

OCT 31

7:30 - 8:20 PM

COVID-19 AND THE CLIMATE CRISIS

Dr. David Kaiser

DOES JUDAISM STAND A CHANCE? Rabbi Dr. Moshe Koppel

GENDER DIFFERENCES IN GRIEVING
Corrie Sirota

ESSENTIALS OF JUDAISM: WHAT ARE THE TEN COMMANDMENTS? Rabbi Mark Fishman

8:30 - 9:20 PM

SRAEL 201: YOUR NEXT LEVEL GUIDE TO THE MAGIC, MYSTERY, AND CHAOS OF LIFE IN THE HOLY LAND Joel Chazanoff

THE HASIDIM, BETWEEN ROMANCE AND REPULSION:
MY TURBULENT HALF CENTURY AFFAIR
Rabbi Allan Nadler

EXPLORING THE SHAAR ARCHIVES Hannah Srour-Zackon

NOV 7

7:30 - 8:20 PM

Pr. Liane Feldman

IN THE LAND OF THE POSTSCRIPT: THE SHORT STORIES OF CHANA ROSENFARB Goldie Morgentaler

> KEEPING YOUR GLASS HALF FULL: A NEW APPROACH TO OPTIMISM Corrie Sirota

ESSENTIALS OF JUDAISM: THE 70 FACES OF THE TORAH Rabbi Adam Scheier

8:30 - 9:20 PM

Michael Posner in conversation with Cantor Gideon Zelermyer

HOW RESPECTING OTHERS TRANSFORMS LIVES
Rabbi Michael Knopf

EXPLORING THE SHAAR ARCHIVES Hannah Srour-Zackon

UPCOMING EVENTS

TO REGISTER: SHAARHASHOMAYIM.ORG



AN EVENING OF CABARET FEATURING BERLIN'S SEMER ENSEMBLE

Monday, October 2 • 7:30 PM

An all-star lineup of acclaimed Yiddush musicians and Grammy winning artists. Russian folk songs, Yiddush theatre, operatic arias, and cantorial music. \$36 per person. Dessert reception to follow in the Sukkah.

REGISTER

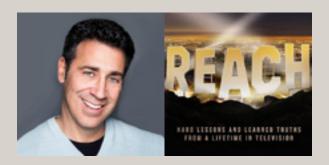


COOKING AND CONVERSATION WITH ADEENA SUSSMAN

Tuesday, October 17 • 7:30 PM

\$180 VIP (partial tax receipt; meet & greet 6-7 PM); \$90 General Admission Doors open at 7 PM. Light refreshments will be served; Books will be available for purchase.

REGISTER



AN EVENING WITH ARTHUR SMITH IN CONVERSATION WITH ANDY NULMAN

Thursday, October 19 • 7:30 PM

Montreal's own, Award-winning Executive Producer of Hell's Kitchen & American Ninja Warrior. Join us for a personal discussion about his new book "REACH: Hard Lessons Learned and Learned Truths from a Lifetime in Television". Free Admission. Books will be available for purchase.

REGISTER

CLUB DE LECTURE

présenté par French Connexion

Mardi 26 septembre à 19h30 • En personne/en ligne

Les œuvres de Milan Kundéra. Les prochaines: jeudi le 26 octobre, et jeudi le 30 novembre.

S'INSCRIRE

ATELIER THÉÂTRE

présenté par French Connexion Les lundis à partir du 23 octobre 23 à 19h30 • En personne

Rejoignez-nous chaque semaine pour répéter des scènes avec un groupe de comédiens amateurs. Tout le monde est le bienvenu, activité gratuite.



S'INSCRIRE

YOUTH SHABBAT AND REMEMBRANCE DAY

Shabbat, November 11 • Services at 8:30 AM

Lively service with participation from our Shaar Youth, featuring the Shaar Hashomayim Children's Choir. Festive kiddush to follow, everyone is welcome.

BOOKS AND TEA

Presented by Sisterhood
Thursday, November 14 • 1 PM
In-person & Online
Demon Copperhead by Barbara Kingsolver
Kingsolver transposes a Victorian epic to the
contemporary American South wothtfaith in the
transformative powers of a good story.
Reviewed by Trudie Mason



VERNISSAGE "TABLET TABLEAUX" BY SHEILA NEMTIN LEVINE

Monday November 20 • 7:30 PM *Guided tour select times*

Tuesday & Wednesday, November 21 & 22

A modern take on an ancient theme, the Torah, this exhibit showcases 54 large multimedia paintings, each depicting a different parsha. Free and open to all.

REGISTER

SOIRÉE CONTES AVEC ORO ANAHORY-LIBROWICZ

présenté par French Connexion Mercredi 28 novembre à 19h30 • En personne

"Naître est un miracle. De mémoire et d'exil."
Porteurs d'une mémoire millénaire, ces contes revisitent les lieux géographiques de l'exil dans les pays chrétiens et musulmans pour aboutir à la prophétie biblique du retour des exilés en terre d'Israël. Événement gratuit.



S'INSCRIRE







DAYCARE FOR CHILDREN 18 MONTHS - 5 YEARS

Our stellar educators are committed to promoting emotional, social, and intellectual growth. Each child is guided to develop:

- A STRONG JEWISH IDENTITY
- A POSITIVE SENSE OF SELF
- PRIDE IN THEIR ACCOMPLISHMENTS
- EMPATHY AND RESPECT FOR OTHERS
- INDEPENDANT PROBLEM SOLVING





Efrat Ben Eliyahu, Director



garderiefoundation.com



For families looking to expand their children's understanding and connection to Judaism. Our program targets students from grades k-6 who do not attend Jewish day school.

Help your child discover their own pathway to Jewish learning, in a supportive and inviting community! An exciting and innovative approach to learning, with a dynamic and professional teaching staff.

- PROJECT-BASED AND EXPERIENTIAL CURRICULUM
- VALUE-BASED TEACHING
- PASSIONATE AND DEDICATED EDUCATORS
- INCLUSIVE SPACE
- SPECIAL COMMUNITY PROGRAMS

WEDNESDAYS AT 4:00 PM CLASSES BEGIN SEPTEMBER 13

Netta Rotstein, Director

- nrotstein@theshaar.org
- shaarhashomayim.org/netivot



EXPLORE JEWISH KNOWLEDGE

DEEPEN JEWISH PRIDE

TAKE JEWISH ACTION

LEARN MORE

A SHAAR BAR AND BAT MITZVAH

- Inspiring experience.
- Meaningful ritual celebration with our dynamic clergy.
- Warm and welcoming community.
- The foundation for a strong Jewish life.

To reserve a date, contact Robyn Bennett 514.937.9474 ext. 146 rbennett@theshaar.org



MEET OUR SHINSHIN, ROEY!

Welcome to Roey who has arrived from Israel to spend the year with our Shaar community as a part of the Shinshinim program, an Israeli initiative.

Watch this video to learn more about him.





Open to all teens in **GRADES 7-11 EVERY WEDNESDAY - 6:30-7:30 PM**

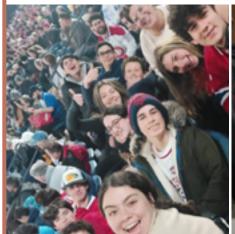
Be part of this international youth group at the Shaar. Led by our Shinshinim (Israeli volunteers) and our NCSY Shaar Chapter Advisors

- FUN ACTIVITIES
- THOUGHTFUL DISCUSSIONS
- LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT

Dinner included. Shaar membership not required.

Contact Julia Langleben

- julia.langleben@gmail.com
- **(** 514-358-8169
- shaarhashomayim.org/teens





ANNOUNCE YOUR SIMCHA OR ACHIEVEMENT WITH US!

Send your information to jwiener@theshaar.org



"THIS WEEK AT THE SHAAR"

Stay up-to-date on all our latest news and upcoming events

SUBSCRIBE TO OUR ENEWSLETTER



HAVE YOU MOVED, OR CHANGED YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS OR PHONE NUMBER?

Please be sure to advise the synagogue office of any changes in your contact information. Forward any changes to *cabramson@theshaar.org*.



Every gift Congregation Shaar Hashomayim is greatly appreciated. These gifts help us to continue to provide worship, learning and engagement opportunities to over 1,300 member families and the greater Montreal community.

We provide many ways to make a gift so that you may give in a way that best suits your personal needs.

DONATE ONLINE:





shaarhashomayim.org/donate

DONATE BY PHONE:

Contact Orit Bueno 514.937.9474 ext. 165.

TO BE LISTED IN THE DIGITAL PUBLICATION

(minimum donation):

\$36 General funds

\$60 Endowment funds

TO SEND A TRIBUTE CARD:

\$20 (minimum donation)

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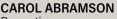
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SHAAR FAMILY CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Thank you to everyone who has contributed to the Shaar Family Capital Campaign. Your gift has made possible so many critical projects and there are still many more to accomplish.

Help us reach our new fundraising goals! Add your name to the growing list of lead donors and be recognized on our Donor Board to be installed in the Côte-St-Antoine lobby at the completion of renovations.

For more information, please contact Jacques Hannaux, Director of Development *jhannaux@theshaar.org* 514.937.9474 ext 169