

## Lifelong Learning Committee Winter Offerings



Here is a look at the initial opportunities for learning during the winter months. The Lifelong Learning Committee is pleased to provide this overview, with additional programs being planned for February and March. If you are interested in sharing a talent or expertise (ex. Jewish genealogy) or have an idea for a program, email us at: [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org). Please check the daily MJC emails for future programs.

**Havdalah and a Light Dinner and Music** - Saturday, January 9 at 4:30 pm - Join Rabbi Dermer and Cantor Warschawski for the beautiful customary service to end the Shabbat and enjoy singing with your family and congregational friends via Zoom. Plan a light, easy meal at home and enjoy the warmth of Havdalah and music online together.

**Improve Your Writing Skills** - Wednesday, January 13 and 20 at 7:00 pm - Don't let poor writing skills be a dealbreaker in the job or college search. This two-part workshop will look at the most common errors in technical English as well as several writing samples in need of improvement. Appropriate for high school and college students as well as adult learners. Register by January 10 at [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org) so that you may receive materials for the workshop from the instructor, Dr. Steven Kussin.

**Torah Yoga Session** – Join Genia Taub on Tuesday, January 19 as she integrates the practice of Yoga with the holiday of Tu BiShvat, the New Year of Trees, which will be celebrated on January 27. Please watch your emails for more specific details.

**Israeli Film Festival** - Lifelong Learning is pleased to present an award-winning Israeli film for congregants to watch at their leisure and then join in a discussion of the film, hosted by Cheryl Uram, on Wednesday, January 27 at 8:30 pm. *The Syrian Bride* is a comic-drama that deals with "a marriage that crosses borders and uncovers the uncompromising physical, mental and emotional boundaries that separate families and societies and the strength that is required to cross them." A special code will be provided so that MJC members may watch the film at no cost. Watch your email for the code release in January.

**The People vs. Eve** – In this mock trial, Eve is charged with crimes against humanity for eating an apple from the Tree of Knowledge. It is alleged that by eating the apple she caused humanity's expulsion from the Garden of Eden leading to suffering, illness, and death for humankind. The attorney for the prosecution is former federal prosecutor, Senator Kelly Ayotte. Alan Dershowitz represents Eve. Watch this entertaining video, courtesy of the Streicker Center by clicking on this link: <https://vimeo.com/398100834>.

**TV Production 101-** You'll never view a television program, or watch a movie, the same way again. This three-part mini-course will focus on the elements of production and directing techniques. Each session will be run 75 to 90 minutes. Clips from *I Love Lucy* and the *Twilight Zone* will be shown. The final session will show how a commercial is made from start to finish. Participants will reserve workshop materials in advance of the first session. Dates to be released in late January for presentation in February. Instructor for this course is Dr. Steven Kussin.



## Ongoing Offerings

**Jewish Mindfulness** - Every Monday at 7:45 pm, Rabbi Dermer and congregants lead a 15 minute meditation to slow down and experience a respite from busy schedules. Just sign onto the MJC Zoom account for this brief pause that refreshes.

**Quieres Habla Espanol?** - Tuesdays at 7:00 pm - Sharyn Kussin continues her class in Spanish language from the fall. If you have sketchy Spanish from high school, this class will help refresh your memory for that trip to Spain or South America that you are planning for 2021-22. To enroll, email: [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org).

**Zoom into the Parsha of the Week** - Wednesdays at 10:00 am - Rabbi Dermer leads participants to new understanding of the weekly Torah portion on the MJC Zoom account. Bring your own bagels.

**Improve Your Hebrew** - Thursday 10:00 am (advanced) or Sunday 11:00 am (beginning and intermediate) - Experienced language teacher Sharyn Kussin helps congregants learn to read and understand Hebrew prayers, blessings, holidays, as well as converse. Great for parents preparing for their children's Bar/Bat Mitzvah or anyone interested in their Hebrew education. To sign up, send an email to: [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org).

**Virtual Hollywood** - Rich Knox continues his weekly presentations on Sunday morning at 10:00 am on Hollywood stars and themes, complete with video clips and interviews. You can access these fascinating programs by signing into a special Zoom account created for this purpose. The log-in info is included in the Friday daily email or contact [lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org](mailto:lifelonglearning@merrickjc.org) to be added to a dedicated email list.

Jan. 3: Bette Davis

Jan. 10: Burt Lancaster

Jan. 17: Ava Gardner

**Virtual Zumba with Carrie Dale** – One-hour sessions will be offered on a weekly basis at no cost to you. Please check your daily MJC emails for scheduled dates and times and correct Zoom log in information.