



Temple Beth El Gets Into Chanukah!

On the first night, Sunday, December 2, at 6:30 PM, bring your menorah and candles to our **Community Chanukah Menorah Lighting Celebration** with dreidles, Chanukah sing along music, story time with Billie Harris and sufganiyot (jelly doughnuts). We invite new temple members to a Pizza Party with Rabbi Shifra at 5:30 PM, RSVP to [Melissa Sunberg](#) is required.

On Tuesday, December 4, Sarah Clarkson hosts **Chanukah Story Time** for young families at Bookshop Santa Cruz, 1520 Pacific Ave., Santa Cruz, at 5:30 PM. Billie Harris will read Chanukah stories, we will sing Chanukah songs and join Bookshop families as we all light the menorah.

On the 4th night of Chanukah, Wednesday, December 5, at 7:00 PM, come cheer at **Jewish Heritage Night** with the Santa Cruz Warriors. Temple School kids will be invited to sing Chanukah songs on the court and light the menorah at halftime. Leaders of SRFY youth group, Jessie and Zea Segnitz, will sing the national anthem. Click [here](#) to purchase your tickets.

On Thursday, December 6, 7:00 PM, the 5th night, you won't want to miss **Moving Prayer**. Join Rabbi Diane Elliot as we light the menorah and explore the essence of Jewish prayer through song and text study, questioning and conversation, and even a little movement!

And if you have never been to our **Chanukah Extravaganza**, you are in for an

amazing experience on Friday, December 7. We begin at 5:45 PM, with a latke dinner, (reservations required for the dinner, sign up [here](#)). Then we transform the social hall and sanctuary for **Rock of Ages**, our Chanukah Shabbat service with the Rock Shabbat band at 7:00 PM. Please bring your menorah and candles! All are welcome to Rock of Ages, whether or not you have signed up for the dinner, so bring your friends. Also, we can't do it without you, click [here](#) to volunteer to make the magic happen.

On the last day of Chanukah, Sunday, December 9, at 2:00 PM, join **Book of Joy** author, our own Doug Abrams-in partnership with Bookshop Santa Cruz, The Humanities Institute at UCSC, Santa Cruz Public Libraries and Temple Beth El-for a community wide discussion and celebration around the themes of kindness and joy.

At this time of social and cultural division, and when many are feeling a sense of despair, *The Book of Joy: Lasting Happiness in a Changing World*, by the Dalai Lama, Desmond Tutu and Doug Abrams, is an ideal book to discuss as a community. Abrams will share rare footage from the historic meeting of these global icons in Dharamsala, India and facilitate a dialogue with Rabbi Paula Marcus, Father Cyprian Consiglio, Reverend Deborah Johnson, and Ven. Tenzin Chogyi, about different spiritual traditions that lift up joy and compassion. The afternoon will conclude with a book signing and musical performance.

Happy Chanukah!



Temple Beth El
Reform Judaism, Santa Cruz Style
Jewish Community Center Aptos, California