



April 2021

Commemorating Yom HaShoah

The BJC is committed to bringing together Holocaust survivors from across the region, along with the greater community to commemorate Yom HaShoah. Despite being unable to gather in person for the second year in a row, our commitment to carrying on this tradition remains strong.



Given the close connection between Yom HaShoah and Yom Ha'atzmaut, Israel's Independence Day, this year's virtual program will take you to Yad Vashem. We will explore the exhibit "They Say There Is A Land: Longing for Eretz Yisrael During the Holocaust" presented by Stephanie McMahon-Kaye, who served as an educator at the museum. This presentation will highlight the hope, determination, and dream of a return to Zion shared by victims of the Holocaust, and survivors who saw their dreams of a Jewish state become a reality. The program will also include remarks from Senator Ben Cardin and recognition of teachers and Survivors committed to ensuring the lessons of the Holocaust are never forgotten.

This pre-recorded event will premiere on Sunday, April 11, 2021 at 12:00 PM on the BJC's website and social media platforms, where it will remain accessible for viewing. [If you would like to receive an email reminder please register here.](#)

Preparing For Passover With An Evening of Storytelling



Passover has traditionally been a time of sharing stories from our past. In that spirit we were proud to work with Repair The World: Baltimore to create a place where community members could share their stories, highlighting the diversity, and diversity of experiences, that exist within the Jewish Community.

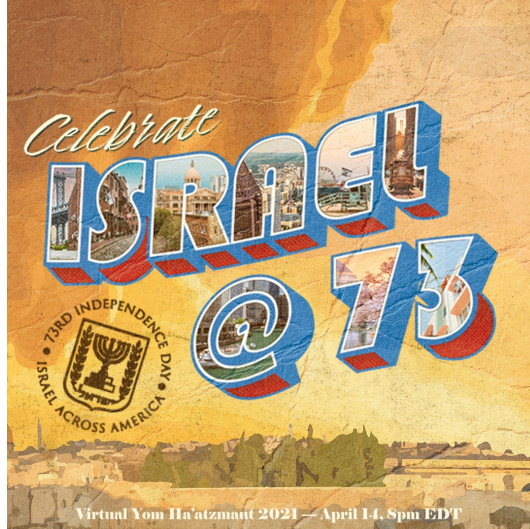
Last week over 100 attendees joined us for How We Left; How We Arrived: A Night of Storytelling in Anticipation of Pesach. Six participants each shared their incredible and moving stories with everyone. We extend our gratitude to Sean Johnson, Greg Terry, Piper Jordan, Tikvah Womack, Melissa Smith, and Octavia Shulman for making this such an inspiring evening. You may [view the full program on YouTube](#) and [read more about some of the participants in The Baltimore Sun](#).

Israel Turns 73, Celebrate With The Embassy!

It is almost time for Israel's 73rd birthday. We are excited to be joining with the Israeli Embassy to bring you "Israel Across America," a night of festivities to mark Israel's Independence Day.

The virtual celebration will premiere live on April 14th at 8:00 PM on the Embassy of Israel's social media platforms. The program will include Ambassador Gilad Erdan, special guests, musical performances, and a showcase of Israel's achievements

from across the United States. [Be sure to tune in!](#)



Apply Now: Social Justice Teen Fellowship



Applications for the Social Justice Teen Fellowship are now open! Hosted in conjunction with the students of the Elijah Cummings Youth Program in Israel, the fellowship is for high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors with a passion for social justice.

Students who participate in the nine month fellowship will build relationships with teens of various faiths and ethnic backgrounds, and learn to facilitate conversations with peers on racism, antisemitism, diversity and social justice. The highlight of the program includes learning the fundamentals of podcast making with Aaron Henkin of WYPR, so that each teen can create their own justice driven podcast.

[Learn more about the Social Justice Teen Fellowship and apply by May 15.](#)

Final Days Of General Assembly Session: Legislative Update



Just over one week remains in the 2021 legislative session of the Maryland General Assembly and the BJC legislative team is hard at work advocating on behalf of the community. Here is a brief update on some of the legislation we have been working on.

House Bill 418 – County Boards of Education – Symbols of Hate Crimes – Policy This bill would require each county board of education to adopt a policy prohibiting the use or display of hate symbols such as a swastikas or the confederate flag. This bill has passed the House and is being heard in the Senate Education, Health, and Environmental Affairs Committee today.

Senate Bill 220 / House Bill 128 Criminal Law – Hate Crimes – Protected Groups and Penalties This bill would allow a court to require an individual who is convicted of a hate crime to undergo an antibias education program to be developed by the University System of Maryland. It also expands the protected classes of the hate crime statute to explicitly include gender-related identity. This bill passed out of both chambers.

Senate Bill 3 / House Bill 123 (SB3/HB123) Preserve Telehealth Access Act of 2021 This bill would ensure that telehealth continues to be reimbursed by insurance providers, including audio only visits, so that patients will have multiple options for how they can visit their healthcare providers. This bill has passed out of both chambers.

Call To Action!

Senate Bill 154/ House Bill 18 (SB154/HB18) – Landlord and Tenant – Eviction Action – Right to Counsel This bill would establish the right to legal counsel for low-income tenants in rent court who are facing eviction. While this has passed out of the House of Delegates, it still needs to make it out of the State Senate. With only days left in the legislative session, it is critical to show your support to get this bill moving.

[Contact your Senator today and let them know that you support Tenant Right to Counsel.](#) Just 1% of tenants appear in rent court with representation, compared to 98% of landlords who have representation. This undoubtedly leaves tenants lost in the proceedings of rent court and makes it significantly more likely they will conclude with a negative disposition.

Support The Associated

The Baltimore Jewish Council, a proud agency of The Associated: Jewish Federation of Baltimore, depends on the funding it receives from The Associated's Annual Campaign. Now, more than ever in its 100 year history, our Associated network needs your support. Together we are addressing the urgent and critical needs of those most affected by the current coronavirus pandemic while ensuring the health and vitality of our community members through social services and connections to meaningful Jewish experiences. Donate now.

[Please give generously](#)

Upcoming Events & Opportunities

Yom HaShoah Community Commemoration

The Land We Always Dreamed Of: Longing for Eretz Yisrael during the Holocaust

[Sign Up To Receive A Reminder](#)

Premiering: Sunday, April 11, 12:00 PM

Know Before You Go: Israel and the College Campus

A virtual program for junior and senior high school students.

FINAL SESSION - Where Do We Belong?

Monday, April 12 at 5:30 PM

[More Information and Registration](#)

Celebrate Israel At 73

Virtual Yom Ha'atzmaut Event With The Israeli Embassy

Wednesday, April 14, 8:00 PM

[Register Now](#)

Immortal Fire: Out Of The Ashes Of The Holocaust

Presented By The Washington Master Chorale

Streaming Begins Friday, May 21 at 7:00 PM

[Tickets And More Information](#)

Baltimore Jewish Council | baltjc.org

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