

Before you leave, don't forget to:

- ☞ Check out our Museum Store, hailed by the *New York Jewish Week* as "the best curated museum store around."
- ☞ Apply the cost of today's ticket to a membership, and enjoy free admission every day! Visit the *Front Desk* to learn more.

Please stay in touch!

- ☞ Sign up for our E-news at NMAJH.org

- ☞ Follow us on:      #NMAJH

- ☞ Review us on:  [tripadvisor](https://www.tripadvisor.com)

- ☞ Visit us any time on Google Cultural Institute on.nmah.org/360gci

We have new exhibitions, programs, and events all the time. Visit NMAJH.org for more information.

What to See in an Hour: 1) Touro Synagogue model, NMAJH, The Mr. and Mrs. Robert Saligman Purchase Fund. 2) George Washington letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, August, 1790, Courtesy of the Morris Morgenstern Foundation. 3) Portrait of Rebecca Gratz, Thomas Sully, 1831, Rosenbach Museum & Library, Philadelphia, 1954.1936, Bequest of Henrietta Gratz Clay. 4) Uniform of Jacob da Silva Solis-Cohen, On loan from the Collection of the Civil War Museum of Philadelphia, and uniform of Major Abraham Myers, The Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia. 5) Typewriter of Nathan Fleisher, ca. 1920, NMAJH. 6) Eva Davidson, 1918, NMAJH, Gift of Judge Murray C. Goldman in memory of his cousin Eva Davidson Radbill. 7) Workmen's Circle Plaque, NMAJH, Dedicated in celebration of life and continuity by Elaine and Stanley Silverman. 8) Teddy bear, NMAJH, Gift of Helga E. Milberg in memory of Rosa and Emil Weiss. 9) Proclamation of the establishment of the State of Israel, Arthur Szyk, NMAJH, 1948, Gift of Congregation Shaare Eli. 10) Telephone, NMAJH, Peter H. Schweitzer Collection of Jewish Americana. 11) Cassette tape recording of Eliahu Essas, 1978, NMAJH, Gift of David and Elaine Ravich. 12) Statue of Liberty Hanukkah menorah, Manfred Anson, NMAJH, Donated by Dr. Aaron Feingold in honor of Zara Feingold and Rachel Feingold. 13) Piano of Irving Berlin, purchased from Calvin L. Weser, New York, 1909, Courtesy of Elizabeth Peters. 14) Grammy awarded to Leonard Bernstein, 1989, Indiana University Jacobs School of Music. 15) Autograph book of Henrietta Szold, 1923, Jewish Museum of Maryland. 16) Nameplate from the chair of Louis D. Brandeis, Supreme Court of the United States. Collection of Frank B. Gilbert, grandson of Justice Brandeis.

Visitor Guide

& What to See in an Hour



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF
AMERICAN JEWISH
HISTORY

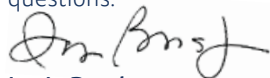
A Smithsonian Affiliate Institution

Welcome to NMAJH!

Dear Visitor,

Welcome to the National Museum of American Jewish History (NMAJH)! NMAJH brings to life the more than 360-year history of Jews in America through rich stories that celebrate the power of imagination and ideas, culture and community, and leadership and service. I hope these stories will inspire you as much as they have inspired me, and that they will compel you to visit our *It's Your Story* booth to share your own reflections on how your identity has both shaped and been shaped by the American experience.

Whether you are visiting us for the first time or the tenth, I hope you have a wonderful time with us today. This guide will show you the essentials of navigating the Museum, but feel free to stop at our front desk or ask one of the volunteers should you have any additional questions.



Ivy L. Barsky

Chief Executive Officer and Gwen Goodman Director

HOURS

Tuesdays through Fridays, **10 am to 5 pm**; Saturdays and Sundays, **10 am to 5:30 pm**. Please check our website for special holiday openings or closures (including open some Monday holidays).

ADMISSION

\$15 adults; \$13 seniors (ages 65 and up) and youth (ages 13-21) and students (with ID); children 12 and under, active military (with ID), and Members are FREE. Tickets valid for admission on **2 consecutive days**.

SHOPPING & REFRESHMENTS

The **Museum Store** offers a curated collection of contemporary and traditional Judaica, gifts, jewelry, and books, as well as our **renowned Ketubah Gallery** and gift registry service. All purchases benefit the Museum. Open during Museum hours and Monday and by appointment. 215.923.0262. Shop online and support NMAJH from home at **judaicashop.net**. Hot and cold beverages and packaged snacks are available inside the Museum Store.

DOCENT TOURS & TALKS

Please check at the Admissions Desk on day of visit for information on **public** tours or talks available that day. **Private** tours must be booked in advance. Discounts available to groups of 15 or more when booked in advance through Group Services, x 141.

GENERAL INFORMATION

GALLERY POLICIES

Photography is permitted (no flash or recording). For the safety of our collection and the enjoyment of other visitors, we ask visitors to refrain from cell-phone conversation; food, beverages, and chewing gum; pen/marker use in the exhibition areas. We ask that luggage, large bags, and wet gear be checked before entering the exhibition. Thank you.

COAT CHECK

Complimentary coat and bag check is available on the first floor. **Please check all luggage, large bags, and wet gear before entering the galleries.**

SECURITY AND RESTRICTIONS

All individuals are subject to screening. All blades, firearms, and other weapons are not permitted on the premises. All bags (including cameras and laptops) are subject to X-ray or manual inspection. Tripods/monopods are not permitted.

ACCESSIBILITY

The main entrance on Market Street and all public areas within the Museum are wheelchair-accessible. A limited number of standard wheelchairs are available at the Front Desk, free of charge, on a first-come, first-served

basis. All videos and computer interactives in the exhibition are captioned; assistive listening devices can be requested for special programs within the Dell Theater. Wayfinding signage includes Braille; service animals are welcome.

RESTROOMS

Restrooms, including wheelchair-accessible and family facilities, are available on the **concourse** level and floors **3** and **5**. Diaper-changing stations are available in family restrooms.

RENTING SPACE

Interested in holding your corporate or special event at the Museum? Visit [NMAJH.org/eventspace](https://www.nmah.org/eventspace)

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Contact the Museum at **215-923-3811** or visit **NMAJH.org**.

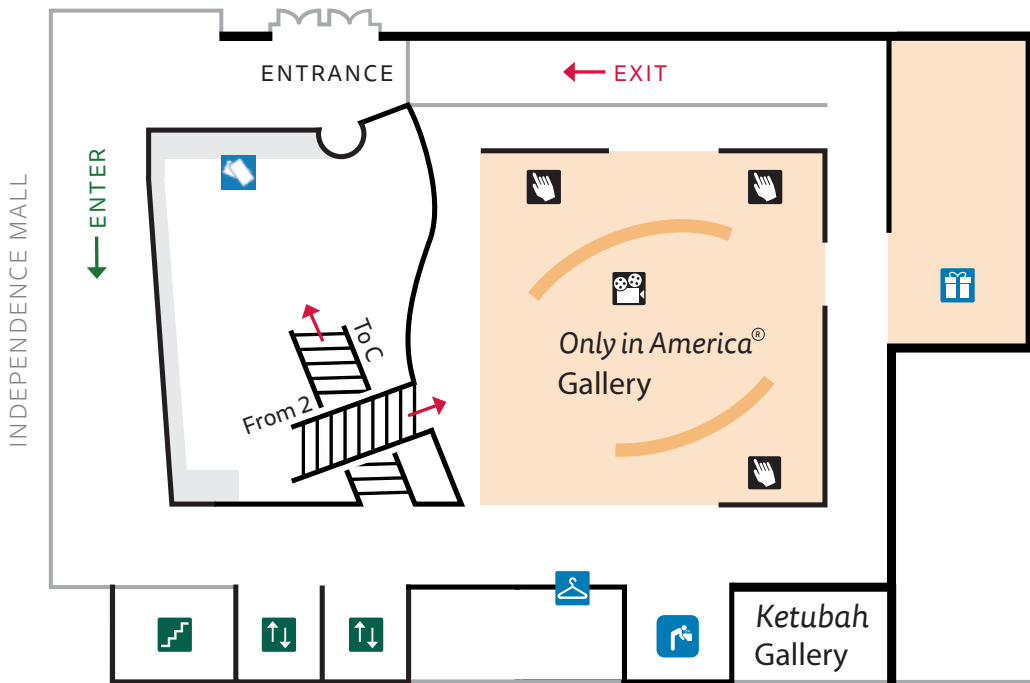
Follow us on:      #NMAJH

Review us on  [tripadvisor](https://www.tripadvisor.com)

1 ONLY IN AMERICA[®] GALLERY

We invite you to begin your visit on the 4th floor. Starting with the very first Jews to settle in colonial America, the core exhibition flows chronologically as it highlights the diverse backgrounds, expectations, and experiences of Jews

who came to the United States and the generations that followed. The exhibition illustrates the choices they faced, the challenges they confronted, and the ways in which they shaped, and were shaped by, their American home.



The Only in America[®] Gallery features the stories of hundreds of individuals—some well-known, others less so—whose stories are emblematic of the American Jewish experience.

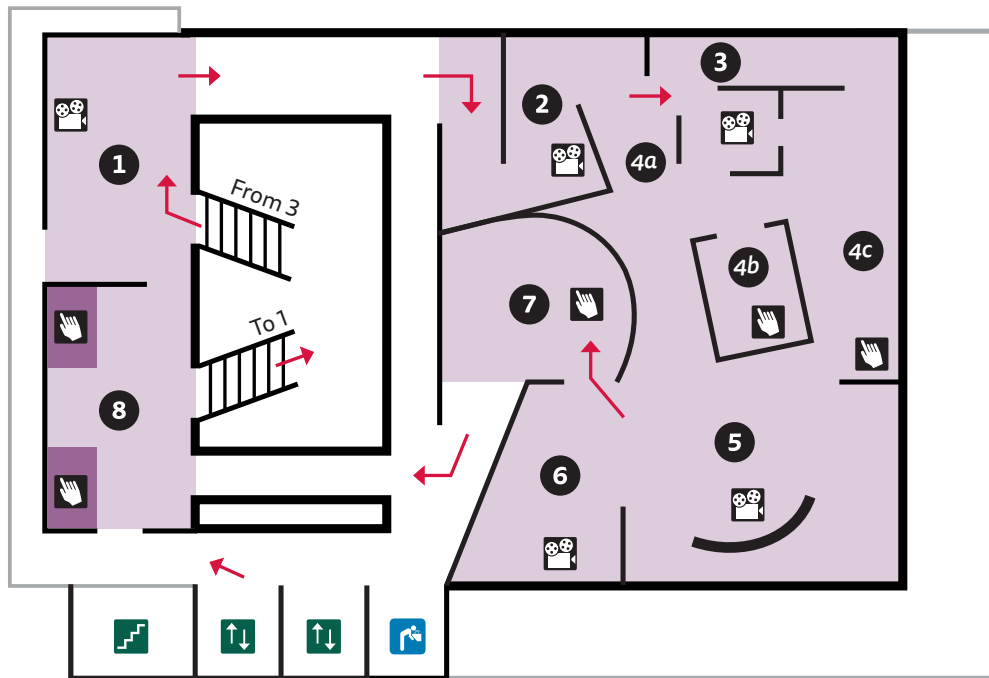
- SUGGESTED ROUTE
- ↔ ADMISSIONS DESK
- 🎁 MUSEUM STORE
- 🎬 FILM
- 📈 STAIRWELL
- 👔 COAT CHECK
- 🚰 WATER FOUNTAINS
- 👤 INTERACTIVE
- ⬆️⬆️ ELEVATORS

2 CHOICES AND CHALLENGES OF FREEDOM 1945-TODAY

What's your story? Jews and Judaism became increasingly mainstream in the postwar years, as antisemitism waned and legislation prohibiting housing and employment discrimination became law. Jews joined the migration to the suburbs and pioneered new communities. They celebrated the new State

of Israel and joined the fight for civil rights, advocated for women's equality, and worked to free Soviet Jews. Share your thoughts on current events in the *Contemporary Issues Forum*, and add your story to the Museum's collection in our *It's Your Story* video recording booths.

INDEPENDENCE MALL



1 Expanding Freedom
New Responsibilities and Increasing Diversity

2 A Jewish State
• The State of Israel
• Impact of the Cold War

3 New Neighborhoods
• Moving to the Suburbs
• Catskills and Leisure

4 Judaism in Suburbia
a. Postwar Judaism
b. Interactive Synagogue Experience
c. Jewish Education and Summer Camp

5 Freedom Now!
• Civil Rights Movement
• Women's Movement
• Freeing Soviet Jewry

6 American Mosaic, Jewish Mosaic
Jewish Culture and Life at the Millennium

7 Contemporary Issues Forum
Share your opinions with fellow visitors.

8 It's Your Story
Record your story and become part of the Museum!

→ SUGGESTED ROUTE

STAIRWELL

FILM

WATER FOUNTAINS

ELEVATORS

INTERACTIVE

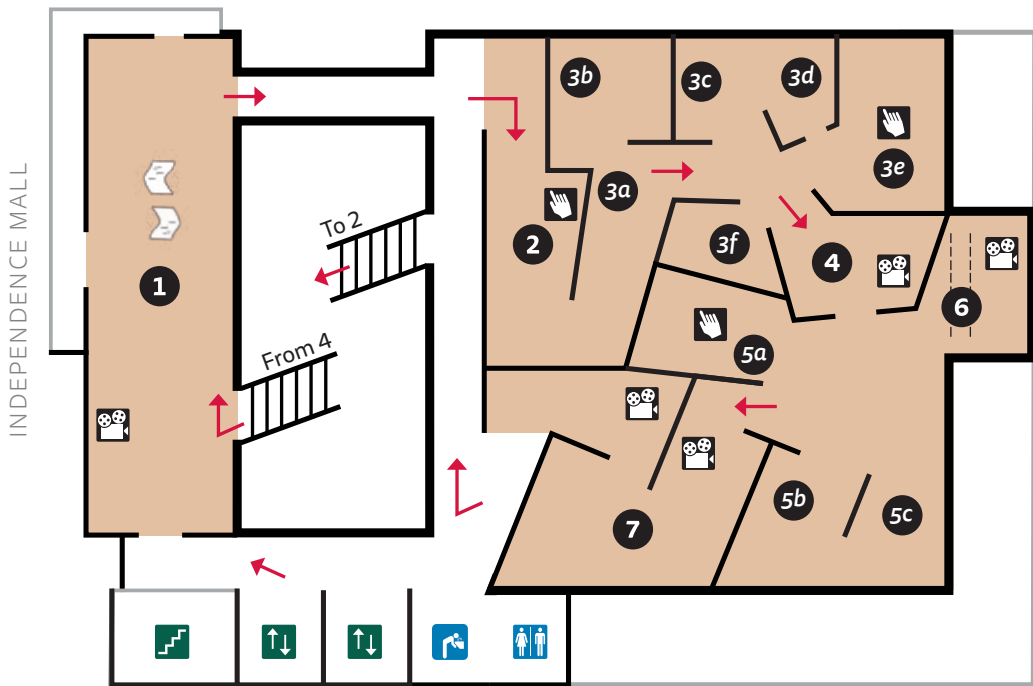
2) *Tzedakah* (charity) box, Jewish National Fund, NMAJH, Dedicated in memory of Arthur Poley by Lyn and George Ross. 3) List family, Courtesy of the Family of Robert and Ernestine List. 4) Congregation Shaarey Zedek, Southfield, © Balthazar Korab Photography Ltd. 5) Poster, *Let My People Go*, 1969, Illustrated by Dan Reisinger, NMAJH, Peter H. Schweitzer Collection of Jewish Americana. 6) Poster, *Levy's Rye Bread*, ca. 1975, NMAJH.

3 DREAMS OF FREEDOM

1880-1945

Did your family immigrate to America? From 1880 to 1924, nearly 20 million immigrants arrived in the U.S. More than two million eastern European Jews came with dreams of religious freedom and economic opportunity, hoping for success but facing the realities of starting anew. See how the Great Depression

challenged all Americans, especially the children of immigrants, and how the rise of Nazi Socialism brought alarm and tragedy. Don't miss the Entertainment Theater's films that show the role immigrants and their children played in the rise of Hollywood.



1 Dreams of Freedom

Award-winning Film Featuring Five Immigrant Stories



2 An Era of Mass Migration

Immigrants Enter America



3 Making America Home

- Adapting to a New Country
- City Streetscape
 - Home/Tenement Life
 - School
 - Organizations
 - Work/Factory Life
 - Rural Life



4 Freedom Challenged

- World War I
- End of Immigration
- Leo Frank and Antisemitism



5 Competing Visions

- Life during the Interwar Years
- Culture
 - Religion
 - Politics



6 Entertainment Theater

Three Films about the Early Days of Hollywood



7 Anxiety, Alarm and Fear

- The Nazis Threaten Europe
- World War II



SUGGESTED ROUTE



STAIRWELL



FILM



WATER FOUNTAINS



ELEVATORS



INTERACTIVE



RESTROOMS

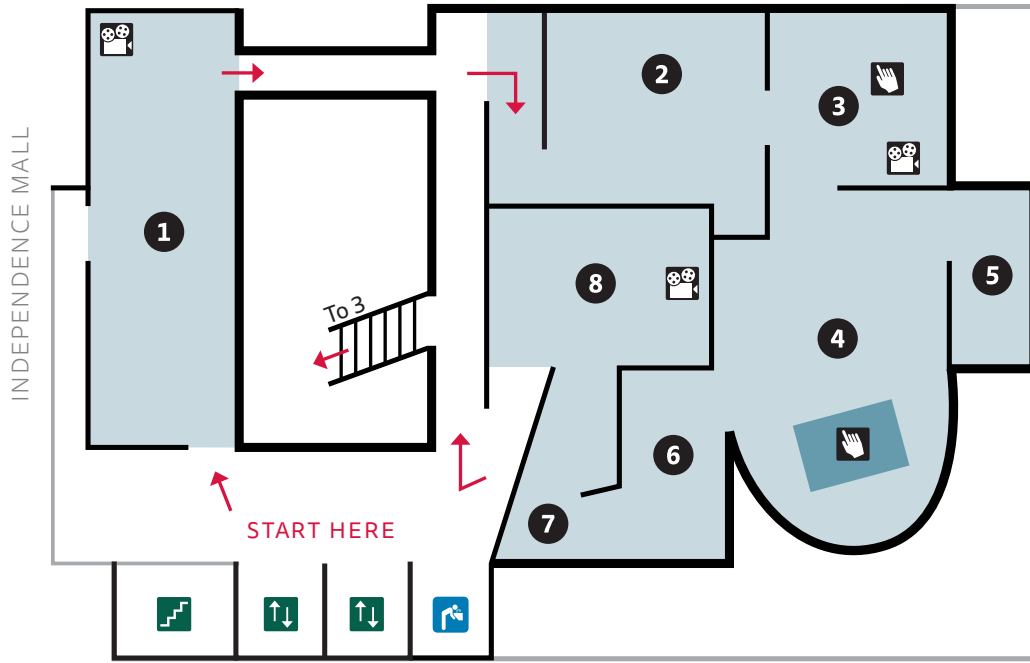
2)Poster, Red Star Line, Antwerp, ca. 1930, L. Gaudo, Private Collection/DaTo Images/ The Bridgeman Art Library. 3) Sign, B. Rosenberg & Sons, NMAJH, Peter H. Schweitzer Collection of Jewish Americana. 4) Poster, Jewish War Sufferers, Illustrated by Lou Mayer, NMAJH, Peter H. Schweitzer Collection of Jewish Americana. 5) Carving from Torah ark, Congregation Shaarei Elijah, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, 1918, Photo by Will Brown, NMAJH, Gift of Congregation Shaare Eli. 7) Steamer trunk used by Josef Joseph on the MS St. Louis, photo by Will Brown.

4 FOUNDATIONS OF FREEDOM

1654-1880

What are our roots? America began as a sleepy colonial outpost and by the mid-nineteenth century had become the world's most energetic society. Unprecedented economic growth, technological innovation, and territorial expansion made it a particularly attractive destination to

those escaping the poverty and economic upheaval of central Europe. American Jews sought to preserve heritage and tradition while integrating into American society—a balance that minority communities strive for today. Don't miss the interactive map, or trying on a costume in our family gallery!



1 An American Story
Introduction to the Core Exhibition

2 Establishing Communities
Jewish Life in Colonial America

3 Embracing Freedom
• The Revolutionary War
• The Famous Washington/Seixas Correspondence

4 Innovation and Expansion
• Immigration from Central Europe
• Westward Migration

5 Fanny Brooks's Journey West
Hands-on Family Gallery

6 Union and Disunion
The Civil War

7 Revival and Renaissance
A Distinctly American Judaism

8 Choices and Challenges
• A Maturing Community
• Purim Balls and Philanthropy

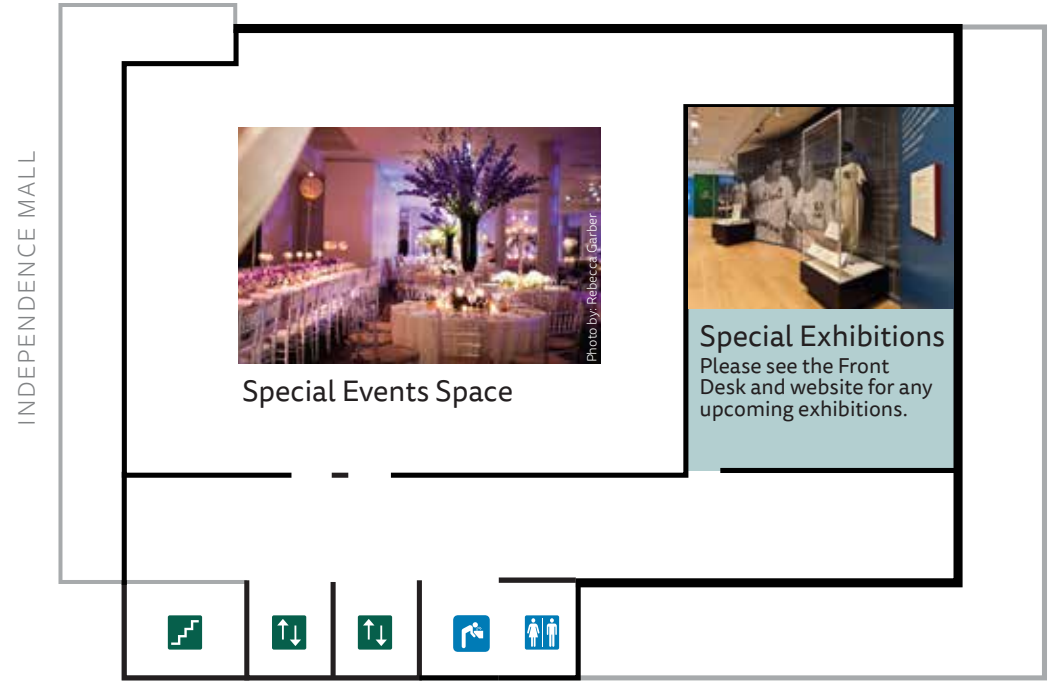
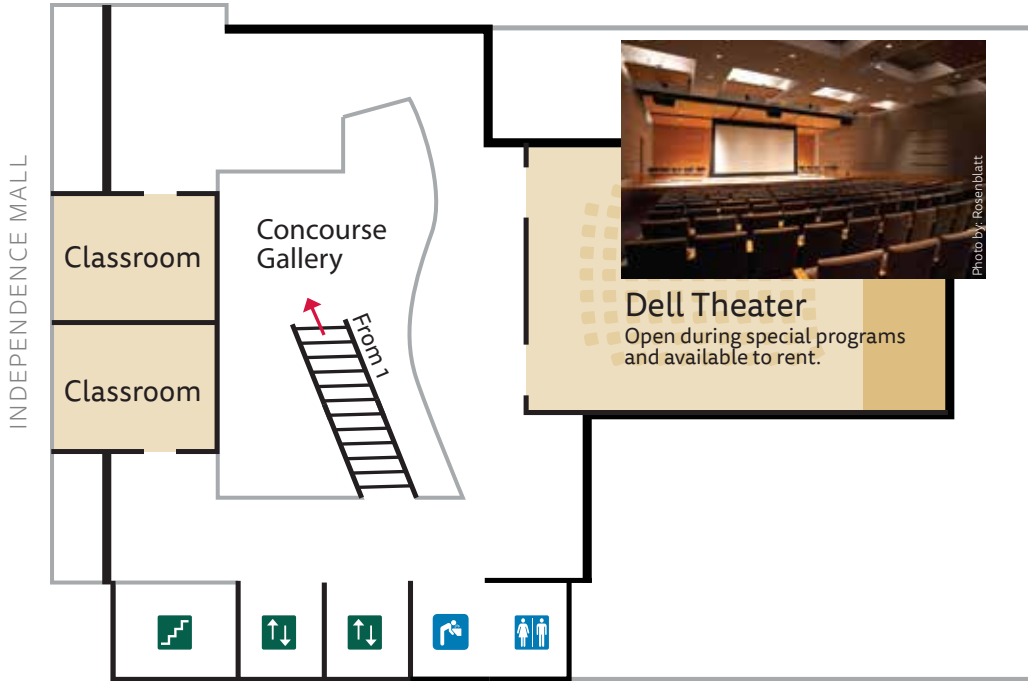
- SUGGESTED ROUTE
- STAIRWELL
- FILM
- WATER FOUNTAINS
- ELEVATORS
- INTERACTIVE

2) Touro Synagogue model, NMAJH, The Mr. and Mrs. Robert Saligman Purchase Fund. 3) George Washington letter to the Hebrew Congregation in Newport, August, 1790, Courtesy of the Morris Morgenstern Foundation. 6) Uniform of Jacob da Silva Solis-Cohen, on loan from the Collection of the Civil War Museum of Philadelphia, and uniform of Major Abraham Myers, The Museum of the Confederacy, Richmond, Virginia. 7) Portrait of Isaac Leeser, by Solomon Nunes Carvalho, ca. 1840, Private Collection. 8) Silk gown from the Solis-Cohen family, nineteenth century, NMAJH.

C CONCOURSE LEVEL

5 SPECIAL EXHIBITIONS and EVENT SPACE

We invite you to visit this floor during special exhibitions and events.



STAIRWELL ELEVATOR

WATER FOUNTAIN RESTROOMS

What to see in an hour...

Short on time? Here's a must see guide to NMAJH. You'll be tempted to stray, but if your time is limited, stay this course. Just match the section numbers under each image with the section numbers on the floor plan, and enjoy the stories behind some of our most beloved objects.

4th Floor



1. Touro Synagogue Model
Establishing Communities
Section **2** on map



2. George Washington Letter
Embracing Freedom
Section **3** on map



3. The Gratz Family
Establishing Communities
Innovation and Expansion
Sections **2** and **4** on map



4. Civil War Uniforms
Union and Disunion
Section **6** on map

3rd Floor



5. Yiddish Typewriter
Making America Home
Section **3a** on map



6. Eva Davidson
Freedom Challenged
Section **4** on map



7. Workmen's Circle Plaque
Competing Visions
Section **5c** on map



8. Helga Weiss's Teddy Bear
Anxiety, Alarm, and Fear
Section **7** on map

2nd Floor



9. Establishment of the State of Israel
A Jewish State
Section **2** on map



10. The Borscht Belt
New Neighborhoods
Section **3** on map



11. The Soviet Jewry Movement
Freedom Now!
Section **5** on map



12. American Menorah
American Mosaic,
Jewish Mosaic
Section **6** on map

1st Floor



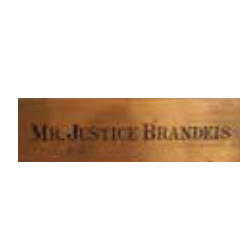
13. Irving Berlin's Piano
Only in America



Leonard Bernstein's Grammy
Only in America



15. Henrietta Szold's Autograph Book
Only in America



16. Louis D. Brandeis's Nameplate
Only in America