



NATIONAL MUSEUM OF  
AMERICAN JEWISH  
HISTORY

A Smithsonian Institution Affiliate

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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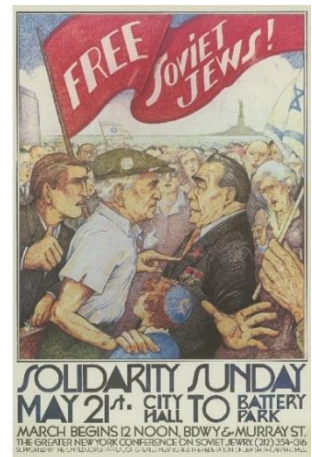
**WINTER 2017-2018 PROGRAMS AT THE**  
**NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY**

PHILADELPHIA—The **National Museum of American Jewish History** (NMAJH) announces a variety of programs for all ages this winter. Just in time for the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of “Freedom Sunday”—the historic Washington, D.C. rally demanding rights for Soviet Jews—visitors can explore the panel exhibition ***Power of Protest: The Movement to Free Soviet Jews*** and attend a related program. Museumgoers can get in the holiday spirit at the Young Friends of NMAJH’s ***Cocktails and Candle Lighting*** Hanukkah celebration and annual ***Being \_\_\_ at Christmas*** extravaganza. In the new year, the Museum will offer free admission and fun activities on **Martin Luther King, Jr. Day** and **Presidents Day**. The full list of programs follows:

***Power of Protest: The Movement to Free Soviet Jews***

**Wednesday, December 6, 2017 – Monday, January 15, 2018**

The personal stories of American Jewish activists and Soviet Jews will be explored in ***Power of Protest: The Movement to Free Soviet Jews***, a panel exhibition created by NMAJH. The exhibition will focus on Americans’ efforts in the late 1960s through 1990 to free *refuseniks*—Jews who lived in the Soviet Union and were denied the rights to live freely, practice Judaism, or leave the country due to their religion—through what *The Atlantic*’s Jeffrey Goldberg has called “the most successful human rights campaign of our time.” The exhibition will travel to venues nationwide. For more information, visit [NMAJH.org/sovietjews](http://NMAJH.org/sovietjews).



Poster, Solidarity Sunday, New York, 1978. National Museum of American Jewish History. Gift of New York Coalition for Soviet Jewry.

*Power of Protest* was created by the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia. The exhibition is supported, in part, through a Museums for America grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a government agency dedicated to advancing innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Additional support provided by Alkemy X, the Charlestein Family in memory of Malvina and Morton Charlestein, and the Genesis Philanthropy Group.

**ADL's Life Lessons in Leadership featuring Soviet Jewry Activist Connie Smukler**  
**Thursday, December 7, 2017, 6 pm**

**Tickets: \$10**

**Connie Smukler** and her family risked their lives and livelihoods to protect the rights of strangers on the other side of the world. On December 7, an immigrant from the former Soviet Union will interview Smukler—the woman who made his journey to America possible. There will be light kosher refreshments prior to the interview. Following the interview, the Museum's exhibition ***Power of Protest: The Movement to Free Soviet Jews*** will be accessible. For more information and tickets, visit [on.nmajh.org/adlsovietjews](http://on.nmajh.org/adlsovietjews).

Organized by the [Anti-Defamation League's Associate Board](#) in partnership with the [American Jewish Committee's Young Leadership, NMAJH Young Friends](#), and [JFGP Next Gen](#) with generous support provided by the [Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation ROI Community](#).

**Educator Appreciation Night**

**Thursday, December 14, 2017, 4 – 6 pm**

**Free with RSVP at [bit.ly/educatorappreciation](http://bit.ly/educatorappreciation).**

NMAJH thanks all educators—current and retired—by inviting them for drinks and light refreshments, gallery exploration, and the opportunity to view the exhibitions *Sifting Through Ashes* and *Power of Protest: The Movement to Free Soviet Jews*. Guests will learn about educational offerings and scholarships—and get a sneak peek of the upcoming special exhibition, *Leonard Bernstein: The Power of Music*. For more information, visit [on.nmajh.org/educatorappreciation](http://on.nmajh.org/educatorappreciation).

**Cocktails and Candle Lighting hosted by the Young Friends of NMAJH**

**Thursday, December 14, 2017, 7 – 10 pm**

**Tickets: \$25 for Young Friends Members, \$35 for non-members**

**Package Tickets: \$60 for 1-year Young Friends Membership plus 1 event ticket;**

**\$100 for 1-year Young Friends Dual Membership plus 2 event tickets**

Join the Young Friends of NMAJH for their 5<sup>th</sup> annual Hanukkah celebration filled with lights, latkes, and libations. The event, which attracted more than 150 guests last year, will feature a specialty

cocktail, Hanukkah-inspired hors d'oeuvres, performances by **8 Days Lit** and **The Chai Lights**, and a silent auction.

Attendees will also have the opportunity to create a Hanukkah-themed take-home craft and tour the Museum's exhibition, ***Power of Protest: The Movement to Free Soviet Jews***. The night's coat drive will benefit ***Our Closet - Powered by JFCS***. For more information and tickets, visit [on.nmajh.org/yfcandlelighting2017](http://on.nmajh.org/yfcandlelighting2017).

The mission of the Young Friends of NMAJH is to inspire and involve the young professional community (ages 21-40) of Greater Philadelphia through social, educational, networking, and philanthropic programming celebrating American Jewish history and culture. *Cocktails and Candle Lighting* is sponsored by Thomas Jefferson University and Jefferson Health; Jacob Markovitz, realtor; and Steven and Helaine Zlotnick.



Photo by Jessi Melcer.

### **Members' Curator Tour of *Power of Protest: The Movement to Free Soviet Jews***

**Thursday, December 21, 2017, 10 am**

**Free and exclusive for Members; RSVP to [membership@nmajh.org](mailto:membership@nmajh.org)**

NMAJH Members are invited to a presentation led by Chief Curator, Director of Exhibitions and Interpretation **Josh Perelman** on ***Power of Protest: The Movement to Free Soviet Jews***, a panel exhibition exploring the significance of this risky, dramatic, and emotionally fraught social justice movement. For details, visit [on.nmajh.org/CuratorTour1221](http://on.nmajh.org/CuratorTour1221). To become a NMAJH Member, visit [NMAJH.org/MembershipOverview](http://NMAJH.org/MembershipOverview).

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### **Being \_\_\_ at Christmas**

**Monday, December 25, 2017**

**Museum hours: 10 am – 5 pm**

**\$12 Adults (Free for Members), \$5 Kids 12 & under (FREE for kids of Family Level Members and above)**

Snowy. Jewish. Happy. Caring. Buddhist. Generous. Creative. Sparkly. Fill in your own blank and join us for our annual day of family fun, *Being \_\_\_ at Christmas*. Visitors can enjoy crafts, story



Photo by Mario Manzoni.

time, gallery exploration, live music with Emmy Award-winning **Alex & the Kaleidoscope**, and more. For more information, visit [NMAJH.org/dec25](http://NMAJH.org/dec25).

Sponsored by the Robert Saligman Jewish Heritage Fund.

### **Martin Luther King, Jr. Family Day**

**Monday, January 15, 10 am – 5 pm**

**Free**

The Museum is open and free on Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, offering family-friendly activities exploring the challenges and blessings of freedom to commemorate the legacy of an American icon. For more information, visit [on.nmajh.org/martinlutherking17](http://on.nmajh.org/martinlutherking17).

### **Presidents Day**

**Monday, February 19, 10 am – 5 pm**

**Free**

Visitors are invited to celebrate Presidents Day at the Museum and explore how American leaders impacted history, American society, and the American Jewish community. Visitors can examine George Washington's original 1790 letter to the Jewish community of Newport, Rhode Island, which declares the importance of religious freedom. For more information, visit [on.nmajh.org/feb17presidentsday](http://on.nmajh.org/feb17presidentsday).



In partnership with JCHAI Sensory Friendly programs for visitors with special needs.

**To view NMAJH's full programs calendar, visit [NMAJH.org/calendar.aspx](http://NMAJH.org/calendar.aspx).**

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[About the National Museum of American Jewish History](#)

The National Museum of American Jewish History, located on historic Independence Mall in Philadelphia, brings to life the more than 360-year history of Jews in America. Tracing the stories of how Jewish immigrants became Jewish Americans, the Museum invites visitors of all backgrounds to share their own stories and reflect on how their histories

and identities shape and are shaped by the American experience. An open door for all, NMAJH honors the past and contributes to a better future by sharing the power of imagination and ideas, culture and community, leadership and service, in ways that turn inspiration into action.

The National Museum of American Jewish History is located at 101 South Independence Mall East at the corner of Fifth and Market Streets in Philadelphia. Museum hours are Wednesday to Friday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, and Saturday and Sunday 10:00 am - 5:30 pm. Museum admission is \$15.00 for adults, \$13.00 for senior citizens and youth, free for children 12 and under, Museum Members, and active military with ID; reduced prices available if purchased online. Connect with the Museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Pinterest](#). For more information, visit [NMAJH.org](#) or call 215.923.3811.