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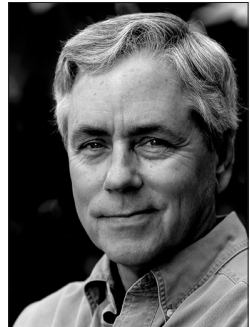
September-October 2016

FREE

MJCCA News

PROLOGUE TO THE BOOK FESTIVAL. The Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta is presenting several Prologue to the Book Festival of the MJCCA events, in September. These events will be held at the MJCCA, 5342 Tilly Mill Road, Dunwoody. Books will be available for purchase from the festival's official bookseller, A Cappella Books.

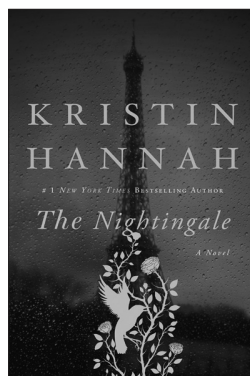
On Thursday, September 22, at 7:30 p.m., Carl Hiaasen, *New York Times*



Carl Hiaasen
(Photo: Tim Chapman)



Kristin Hannah
(Photo: Charles Bush)



sisters, separated by years and experience, each embarking on her own dangerous path toward survival, love, and freedom in

Germany-occupied France.

Tickets for these events are \$10-15, and can be purchased by calling 678-812-4005 or visiting atlantajcc.org/bookfestival.

ARTS AND CULTURE SEASON CONTINUES. The Marcus Jewish Community Center of Atlanta's 2016-2017 Arts & Culture season includes offerings for audiences of all ages, with most programs taking place at the MJCCA, 5342 Tilly Mill Road, Dunwoody. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit atlantajcc.org/boxoffice, or call at 678-812-4002.

Programs are suitable for all ages, unless otherwise recommended, and take place at the Morris & Rae Frank Theatre, unless otherwise indicated.

Programs include:

Music: Matisyahu, (two nights, two venues) January 7, 2017, 8:00 p.m., at the MJCCA and January 8, 8:00 p.m., at City Winery, Ponce City Market, \$45-\$65 and \$100 VIP, includes meet and greet; and Daniel Zamir, February 19, 2017, 7:00 p.m., \$15-\$25.

Literary: 25th Edition of The Book Festival of the MJCCA, November 5-20, tickets go on sale September 1.

Family Theatre: *From Head to Toe*, presented by Alliance Theatre for the Very Young in conjunction with The High Museum of Art exhibition in the Morris & Rae Frank Theatre, October 30, 10:30 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 4:00 p.m.; \$8-\$14 (ideal for children ages one to five years); *Dinosaur*, presented by Alliance Theatre for the Very Young, and a one-of-a-kind collaboration with the Fernbank Museum of Natural History, April 2, 2017, 10:30 a.m., 12:00 noon, and 4:00 p.m., \$8-\$14 (ideal for children six months to five years); *A Brown Bear, A Caterpillar, And A Moon: Treasured Stories by Eric Carle* (presented by Mermaid Theater), April 16, 2017, 11:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m., \$10-\$18 (ideal for children three to five years).



From Head to Toe (photo: Greg Mooney)

Theatre: LABA: *Birds Sing A Pretty Song*, developed by the 14th Street Y, February, 2017, various times and locations,

free and open to the community. LABA is a cutting-edge laboratory for Jewish culture, creating new art inspired by classic Jewish texts. Select directors, designers, musicians, painters, actors, and dancers will be in residence at the MJCCA for a two-week creation period to develop *Birds Sing a Pretty Song*, a program layering dance, interactive media, live music, and film.

Youth Ensemble Theatre Productions: *Xanadu Jr.*; *Guys and Dolls JR.*; *Beauty and the Beast Kids*; and *School House Rock Live! Jr.*

Spotlight: *Kalaidescope: A Musical Review*, February 5, 2017, 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. and *Show us Your Shorts: A Festival of New Plays*, April 23, 2017, 1:00 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. Spotlight is a year-round, audition-based theatre company for adults with special needs.

Jerry's Habima Theatre: *The Wizard of Oz*, March 6-19, 2017. Jerry's Habima Theatre is Georgia's only theatrical company directed and produced by professionals, featuring actors with special needs.

HELPING TEENS BECOME ADULTS. In October, the MJCCA will offer two courses for metro Atlanta teens, at Zaban Park.

#Adulting: Life Skills for the Real World (grades 8-10), teaches life-building skills, including managing a budget, responding to an emergency, protecting one's identity online, and preparing a meal. The course takes place Wednesdays, October 5, 19, and 26, and November 2, from 7:15 p.m.-8:45 p.m.

Instructors include Elaine Rosenblum, renowned attorney, principal of ProForm U, and interpersonal/interviewing skills expert; Sandy Springs Police Department's Jeff Brown; Chef Howard Schreiber; and an executive from BB&T.

The cost is \$65 for non-members and \$50 for MJCCA members.

Computer Game Design (grades 8-11), takes place Thursdays, October 13, 20, and 27, from 6:45 p.m.-8:45 p.m. Taught by an expert from the New York Code + Design Academy, it will cover the fundamentals of game design and programming, including how to build code with HTML, CSS, and JavaScript. Upon completing the course, teens have the option of publishing their work on the Internet, for friends and family to appreciate.

The cost is \$80 for non-members and \$60 for MJCCA members.

For more information on these courses, contact Paige Godfrey, at 678-812-4082, or email paige.godfrey@atlantajcc.org. To register, visit atlantajcc.org.

INTRODUCTION TO JUDAISM. For those who desire to explore the essence of Jewish living or are interested in converting to Judaism, The Lisa F. Brill Institute for Jewish Learning at the MJCCA offers a comprehensive course called "Derech Torah: An Introduction to Judaism." Open

to people of all faiths, this 19-session class runs through Sunday, January 29, 2017, at MJCCA's Zaban Park.

"This course is provocative, challenging, and stimulating," says Rabbi Brian Glusman, MJCCA director of outreach and community engagement, who is the instructor. "It is taught from a pluralistic approach, and encourages class discussions and activities, without the pressure of homework or exams."

The Atlanta Rabbinic Association endorses this class for those considering conversion to Judaism. For more information, or to register, contact Dr. Shelley Buxbaum by e-mail at shelley.buxbaum@atlantajcc.org or call 678-812-4152.

ADULT JEWISH LEARNING AT ITS FINEST. Where in Atlanta can you find an inspiring world-class curriculum, taught by renowned scholars, rabbis, and educators, without the pressure of exams or time-consuming homework? At the MJCCA's Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning. Melton is recognized as the largest pluralistic adult Jewish education network in the world, and the MJCCA's Melton School is one of the largest and most highly regarded in the network.

Melton classes include a meaningful exploration of Jewish history, law, language, practices, traditions, and ideas, through study and group discussion.

Earlier this year, Dr. Shelley Buxbaum, director of the MJCCA's Lisa F. Brill Institute for Jewish Learning and the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, was honored for outstanding leadership at the 21st Annual International Directors Conference, for the Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning, in San Diego. This is the fourth time she has been honored by the Melton organization.

Founded by Florence Zacks Melton in 1980, with the vision of impacting the destiny of the Jewish people through transformative learning, the Melton School has more than 30,000 graduates worldwide. With 50 locations in North America, Great Britain, Australia, South Africa, New Zealand, and Hong Kong, the Melton School sets the standard for high-quality, text-based, interactive Jewish study.

For more information, or to register, contact Dr. Shelley Buxbaum by e-mail at shelley.buxbaum@atlantajcc.org or call 678-812-4152.

NEW FIELDS. The Arthur M. Blank Family Sports Complex was the place to be on August 28, when hundreds celebrated the kick-off of MJCCA's 2016 Fall Youth Sports program. Soccer and flag football participants kicked it up a notch as they practiced to music provided by Vibe Entertainment. Amidst bright sunshine and temperatures hovering in the 90s, many guests lined up at the Kona Ice Truck, while others enjoyed games provided by the Atlanta Hawks, as well as



A happy crowd enjoys the new fields.

Girls Soccer team took the gold medal in Columbus. (Photos courtesy of Libby Hertz and Stacie Graff)



Boys Baseball team won a silver medal in St. Louis, beating the rain, a shift in the tournament schedule, and tough competition.

U-14 Boys Basketball players pack meals for the St. Louis Foodbank.



canoe, kayak, and bumper boat rides on RB Lake.

An extensive overhaul of the athletic fields was recently completed, as part of the agency's Framework for the Future capital campaign.

MACCABI GAMES. MJCCA's Team Atlanta returned victorious from the 2016 JCC Maccabi Games, held recently in St. Louis, Missouri, July 31-August 5, and Columbus, Ohio, July 24-29.

Participating with delegations from around the world, the Atlanta delegation boasted 115 athletes, ages 13-16, and 26 coaches/delegation heads: 46 athletes and 10 coaches/delegation heads in Columbus and 69 athletes and 16 coaches/delegation heads in St. Louis.

Team Atlanta participated in girls' soccer and basketball; boys' soccer, basketball, baseball, and flag football; and individual events, such as dance and tennis. Team Atlanta's 22 medals included

eight gold, 10 silver, and four bronze.

MJCCA delegation heads included Libby Hertz, Jacob Sabel, and Jack Vangrofsky, in Columbus; and Stacie Graff, Art Seiden, and Phil Kahn, in St. Louis.

The JCC Maccabi Games also has a community service component, JCC Cares, in which athletes give back to the host community. In Columbus, they entertained senior citizens and played with athletes in a Special Olympics program. In St. Louis, they packed more than 150,000 meals for the St. Louis Foodbank.

a fun festival of color. Open to all Jewish high school teens in the metro Atlanta area, the BBYO Color Me Kickoff took place at the MJCCA, on August 7. Back by popular demand, this event is a nod to the famous Color Runs, in which participants are intermittently doused in different color powders.

More than 260 teens, grades 9-12, enjoyed an afternoon filled with music, lawn games, three color stops, and the Waffle House catering truck, at MJCCA's Zaban Park campus.

For more information on BBYO in Atlanta, visit atlantajcc.org/bbyo, e-mail bbyo@atlantajcc.org, or call 678-812-3970.

BBYO KICKOFF. The Atlanta Council BBYO hosts a kickoff event at the start of each school year, and this year it was



Smiling faces and kaleidoscopic colors adorn participants at MJCCA's BBYO Color Me Kickoff. (Photos courtesy of Stacie Graff and Ben Engelman)



More than 260 teens celebrated the start of BBYO's 2016-2017 year at MJCCA.

אנו עומדים יחדיו
We stand with Israel
security • peace • solidarity