



JAM DC Attends Passover Seder at area Synagogue
March 30, 2010
Washington, DC

JAM DC—“Jews And Muslims DC”—attended a second-night Passover Seder dinner together at Washington Hebrew Congregation in Cleveland Park on Tuesday evening. Formerly known as Olive Branch DC, the group exists to bring together Muslim and Jewish young professionals in the Washington DC area through social, educational, cultural, and service activities. JAM DC publicizes its bridge-building activities and serves as an inspiration to others locally, nationally, and internationally.

The annual Jewish dinner and Exodus story re-telling evening was hosted by “2239,” Washington Hebrew’s young professionals group and was led Rabbi Joui Hessel. The evening brought together over 100 young Jews and friends from across the Washington region and featured a special table for JAM DC’s attendees, which included 12 Muslims and Jews. The group has previously come together at Muslim events as well, such as an interfaith Iftaar gathering last fall.

Zeeshan Suhail and Stuart Levy, members of the JAM DC Organizing Committee, promoted the event to help build a spirit of cross-cultural friendship and positive energy. JAM DC events are focused on creating opportunities for young professional Jews and Muslims to come together to learn and celebrate their traditions.

“Following the highly attended interfaith Iftaar JAM DC hosted last year, it only made sense to find a way to come together around a Jewish holiday. The Passover Seder was a perfect opportunity to enjoy a social evening together among friends while learning about the Jewish tradition of re-counting the Jewish people’s emancipation from slavery 3,000 years ago,” said Suhail.

“Tonight’s gathering comes on the heels of our previous successful joint events. From the energy and interest among our Muslim and Jewish participants at tonight’s Seder, I am confident this will be just one of many opportunities we will have to share, volunteer alongside, and have fun together,” said Levy.

For more information about JAM DC or to join the mailing list, contact Stuart Levy at selevy@gmail.com.

Jews and Muslims DC (JAM DC) Mission

JAM DC exists to bring together Muslim and Jewish young professionals in the Washington DC area through social, educational, cultural, and service activities, as well as to publicize these bridge-building activities and serve as an inspiration to others locally, nationally and internationally.

On Our New Name...

As our group’s focus is to get to know one another on a personal – not political – basis, our JAM DC organizing committee agreed that the Olive Branch DC name conjured up images of Mideast politics. Accordingly, we opted for a name that most accurately portrays us – Jews and Muslims. And besides, JAM is much sweeter than olives!