

# Yom Kippur Study Sessions

Saturday, September 18, 2010

Yom Kippur, the holiest day of the Jewish year, is a day of prayer, atonement and reflection. Washington Hebrew Congregation invites you to spend your day at Temple and hopes the combination of worship, contemplation and meditation we provide enhance and enrich your high holy day experience.

**11:15 am**

## **Rabbi Joshua O. Haberman**

Rabbi Emeritus, WHC

*Three Jewish Wisdom Rules to Live By*

## **Ari Roth**

Artistic Director, Theater J

*Wiesel & Madoff; Ayers & Obama;  
Boudin & Beck: Reckoning, Revisionism  
and the Question of Repentance on the  
American Jewish Stage*

## **Murry Sidlin**

Dean of Music, Catholic University

*Defiant Requiem: Verdi at Terezín*

## **Haskell Small & Drew Owen**

Washington Conservatory of Music

*Music for Introspection from Bach,  
Brahms, Messiaen and Shostakovitch*

## **Stephanie Tankel**

Assistant Principal, WHC Lehrman Religious School

*An Exploration of Uncomfortable Liturgy:  
The Ten Martyrs in Our Yom Kippur  
Afternoon Service*

**1:30 pm**

## **Rabbi Joshua O. Haberman**

Rabbi Emeritus, WHC

*Three Jewish Wisdom Rules to Live By*

## **Hank Levine**

Washington Hebrew Congregation Past President

*Washington Hebrew Congregation's First  
50 Years—Our Story and What We Can  
Learn from It*

## **Ari Roth**

Artistic Director, Theater J

*Wiesel & Madoff; Ayers & Obama;  
Boudin & Beck: Reckoning, Revisionism  
and the Question of Repentance on the  
American Jewish Stage*

## **Rabbi David Saperstein**

Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism

*Israel at a Crossroads on Religious  
Equality and Pluralism: Urgent Lessons  
from the Summer's Conversion Bill  
Controversy*

## **Haskell Small & Drew Owen**

Washington Conservatory of Music

*Music for Introspection from Bach,  
Brahms, Messiaen and Shostakovitch*

## **WHC Teens**

Aaron Katz, Coby Rodman & Meghan Siritzky

*Israel Through Our Teens' Eyes*

# Yom Kippur Study Session Speakers



## Rabbi Joshua O. Haberman

*Three Jewish Wisdom Rules to Live By*

Joshua O. Haberman is Rabbi Emeritus of WHC and recently celebrated 40 years of service to the Congregation and 65 years in the Rabbinate. He received an invitation to become senior rabbi of Washington Hebrew Congregation in 1969. He reintroduced the Congregation to many of the beautiful traditions that early Reform Judaism had discarded. His love of learning resulted in the creation of many educational programs at Temple, including Early Torah Study sessions and Bible Classes. He also nurtured a growing connection between our Congregation and the State of Israel. During his tenure, he also presided over the building of the Julia Bindeman Suburban Center in Potomac, MD, in 1976. Rabbi Haberman has served in numerous leadership roles in the Reform Movement, Central Conference of American Rabbis, the World Union for Progressive Judaism and as President of NAORR (National Association of Retired Reform Rabbis). He is founder and chairman of the Foundation for Jewish Studies, the Open Academy for Jewish Studies, and co-director of the new Bible Study Center. His scholarly publications include three books: *Philosopher of Revelation* (Solomon L. Steinheim), *The God I Believe In* and *Healing Psalms: The Dialogues with God that Help You Cope with Life*.

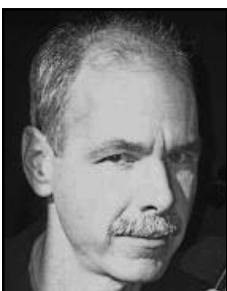


## Hank Levine

*Washington Hebrew Congregation's First 50 Years—Our Story and What We Can Learn from It*

Washington Hebrew Congregation is not just DC's first synagogue; it is the capital's oldest Jewish communal institution. Our founding and early history parallel the growth and evolution of the United States and American Jewry in the second half of the 19th Century, and tell us a lot about our past – and our future – as a community. In this study session, past-WHC President Hank Levine will offer an illustrated history of WHC from its founding in 1852 to the move to its “new” home at 8th and I Streets in 1898, with stops along the way to consider our Congressional ‘charter’, some of the leading figures in the early days of the Congregation, the transition from Orthodoxy to reform (and the accompanying schism), and the ways in which we adapted to changes in the Jewish community – a process that continues to this day.

Henry D. (“Hank”) Levine is a partner in the firm of Levine, Blaszak, Block & Boothby, LLP, where he specializes in the representation of large users on telecommunications-related matters. He has negotiated communications contracts on behalf of Fortune 100 Companies and the equivalent, including DuPont, the City of New York, IBM, Honeywell, and Goldman Sachs. And he has been heavily involved in settling (or, where necessary, litigating) contract disputes between large users and their carriers. He received his B.A. from Yale in 1972 and his J.D. from Harvard Law School in 1976. He also holds a Master's Degree in Public Policy from Harvard's Kennedy School of Government. In addition to many years of participating on numerous WHC committees, Hank served as Temple president, from 2006 to 2008.



## Drew Owen

*Music for Introspection from Bach, Brahms, Messiaen and Shostakovich*

Drew Owen is currently a faculty member at Howard University and the Washington Conservatory of Music. In 1989, he joined the New Orleans Symphony and, after that orchestra's dissolution in 1991, helped to form the Louisiana Philharmonic Orchestra. A resident of Washington, D.C. since 1998, he has performed with the Washington National Opera and the Kennedy Center Opera House Orchestras, the National Symphony Orchestra, and the Baltimore Symphony. He also is a published cartoonist whose work focuses on the humorous side of the world of professional classical musicians. Mr. Owen holds performance degrees from the College Conservatory of Music in Cincinnati and the Cleveland Institute of Music.



## Ari Roth

*Wiesel & Madoff; Ayers & Obama; Boudin & Beck: Reckoning, Revisionism and the Question of Repentance on the American Jewish Stage*

Ari Roth is beginning his 14th season as Artistic Director at Theater J, the resident professional company of the Washington DCJCC, hailed by *The New York Times* as “The Premier Theater for Premieres” and widely recognized as one of the most distinctive and respected Jewish theaters worldwide. Together with a dedicated staff, he has produced more than 85 full productions, including 29 world premieres. Theater J works with some of the world’s most distinguished authors for the stage and has produced world premieres by Wendy Wasserstein, Richard Greenberg, Thomas Keneally, Joyce Carol Oates, and Ariel Dorfman. Also a playwright, Mr. Roth has staged a number of his own works at Theater J including *Born Guilty* and its sequel, *The Wolf in Peter* (both to be produced in repertory at the Epic Theatre in New York next season) and *Goodnight Irene* (commissioned by Manhattan Theatre Club). He is a 1998 and 2003 recipient of a National Endowment for the Arts playwriting grant, a three-time winner of the Helen Eisner Award, and a two-time winner of the Avery Hopwood, among other recognitions. He has taught for the University of Michigan for 13 years, currently for their “Michigan in DC” internship program, as well as for Brandeis, NYU, and Carnegie Mellon Universities.



## Rabbi David Saperstein

*Israel at a Crossroads on Religious Equality and Pluralism: Urgent Lessons from the Summer’s Conversion Bill Controversy*

Rabbi David Saperstein represents the national Reform Jewish Movement to Congress and the Administration as Director of the Religious Action Center of Reform Judaism. In 2004 and 2006, *The Wall Street Journal* and the Religion News Service, respectively, described him as among the country’s most influential shapers of religious issues in national elections. He was designated in *Newsweek*’s 2009 list as the most influential rabbi in the country and described in a *Washington Post* profile as “the quintessential religious lobbyist on Capitol Hill.” During his more than three-decade tenure, Rabbi Saperstein has headed several national religious coalitions and serves on the boards of numerous national organizations, including the NAACP, People for the American Way, Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life, and the World Bank’s World Faith Development Dialogue. He was elected in 1999 as the first Chair of the U.S. Commission on International Religious Freedom and was appointed by President Obama in 2009 as a member of the first White House Council on Faith-Based and Neighborhood Partnerships. A prolific writer and speaker, Rabbi Saperstein has appeared on a number of television news and talk shows including *Crossfire*, *Hardball*, *Nightline*, *Oprah*, *Lehrer News Hour*, ABC’s *Sunday Morning*, and *The O’Reilly Factor*. His articles have appeared in *The Washington Post*, *The New York Times* and the *Harvard Law Review*. A descendant of a large rabbinic family, Rabbi Saperstein is also an attorney, teaching seminars in both First Amendment Church-State Law and in Jewish Law at Georgetown University Law School.



## Murry Sidlin

*Defiant Requiem: Verdi at Terezín*

Murry Sidlin, the dean of music at Catholic University, is credited with having one of the most diverse musical careers in America today. Meet this talented individual and learn about his internationally-acclaimed creation, *Defiant Requiem-Verdi at Terezín*. This piece, which will be performed at the Kennedy Center on October 6, tells the story of courageous Jewish prisoners in the Theresienstadt concentration camp during World War II who performed Verdi’s Requiem Mass as a statement of courage and resistance. In addition to historical film footage of the period, *Defiant Requiem* includes testimony from surviving members of the Terezín choir and a full performance of Verdi’s famous oratorio. Prior to joining Catholic University in 2002, Mr. Sidlin was the Oregon Symphony’s resident conductor. While there, he created the *Illuminations* series (originally called *Nerve Endings*). Designed to attract new audiences and to expand the traditional role of the symphony orchestra, these concerts were the most written about, controversial, and well-attended events in the symphony’s history. He has conducted concerts around the globe and has just completed his 24th summer at the Aspen Music Festival, where he is associate director and program coordinator of the American Academy of Conducting. Mr. Sidlin has been featured on NBC’s *Today*, CBS’s *Sunday Morning*, and ABC’s *Good Morning America*.



## Haskell Small

*Music for Introspection from Bach, Brahms, Messiaen and Shostakovich*

“Technical prowess became poetry... each note a liquid jewel,” is how *The Washington Post* has described the music of Haskell Small. He has performed with great success in major European capitals, South America, and Asia and has been enthusiastically received by American audiences in such venues as Carnegie Hall, the Kennedy Center and the Spoleto Festival. A prize winner in the Johann Sebastian Bach International Piano Competition, Mr. Small has received numerous awards and has been featured in the nationally broadcast PBS special, “A Celebration of the Piano.” Mr. Small is also an accomplished composer, who often performs his own works. He has received commissions from such organizations as the Washington Ballet, Three Rivers Piano Competition, Georgetown Symphony and Paul Hill Chorale. Besides his recording of Renoir’s Feast, Small has recorded a number of CDs, among them a Gershwin disc, a children’s CD with narrator Robert Aubry Davis, and Bach’s Goldberg Variations. Haskell Small received his musical training at the San Francisco Conservatory and Carnegie Mellon University. Currently, he is the piano department Chair of the Washington Conservatory of Music.



## Stephanie Tankel

*An Exploration of Uncomfortable Liturgy: The Ten Martyrs in Our Yom Kippur Afternoon Service*

Stephanie Tankel came to Washington Hebrew Congregation after serving as the Principal Educator at The West London Synagogue of British Jews. She had also worked as Director of Education at Finchley Progressive Synagogue and at the Movement for Reform Judaism in their “Jeneration” department. Before moving to London, Stephanie worked as the Family Educator at Central Synagogue in New York City. She received Master’s Degrees in Jewish Education and Modern Jewish Studies from the Jewish Theological Seminary of America in 2007, and received her Bachelors Degree in Comparative Literature, Hebrew, and Jewish Studies from the University of Wisconsin-Madison in 2004. Originally from Bethesda, Stephanie is happy to be in the area with her husband. At WHC, Stephanie creates, develops, supervises and coordinates curricular material, classroom activities and faculty for all aspects of the Lehrman Religious School at Temple.



## WHC Teens – A Panel Discussion

*Israel Through Our Teens’ Eyes*

Hear from WHC’s teenagers who have spent significant time in Israel during the past year. Participating in the panel discussion are Aaron Katz – the son of Leslie and Steven Katz – who is a senior at Winston Churchill High School; Coby Rodman – the son of Lori and Robert Rodman – who is a senior at Winston Churchill High School; and Meghan Siritzky – the daughter of Roanne Plotnizky and Brian Siritzky – who is a junior at Winston Churchill High School.

These students have taken part in NFTY’s Eisendrath International Exchange (EIE), Alexander Muss High School in Israel and BBYO’s International Leadership Seminar Israel (ILSI). The Middle East continues to dominate the news and plays a major role in the global political scene. Living in Israel for an extended period of time has given these teens a unique and special lens through which they can now view the world. Share their experiences, hear their stories, and find out what the next generation of Jewish leaders believes about Israel. This program is designed for those interested in Israel but even more so for any teens and parents who are considering traveling to Israel in the near (or not so near) future.