

L'CHAYIM

Jewish Life, Jewish Home

We are pleased to announce the Spring 2011 offerings for our L'CHAYIM INITIATIVE. This program is presented by WHC members, for WHC members, and in the homes of WHC members. We have a variety of interesting programs as a way to engage our community in comfortable settings. Our hosts and presenters put a lot of effort into these programs, so please take your enrollment seriously. Since space is limited, we ask that you think carefully before reserving and cancelling as there is often a waiting list.



SPRING 2011 SCHEDULE

Thursday, March 3

AN EVENING OF YIDDISH FOLKLORE with WHC member and teacher Joyce Winslow. As the main spoken language of Jews many years, Yiddish has plenty to *kvetch* and laugh about and conceal. Its expressions and folktales paint a portrait of a complicated people in a state of exile. The language was disembodied during the Holocaust but its spirit lives on. In this course, Joyce Winslow will show how Yiddish combined love, sex, professions, and rituals into one big *tsimmes*. Joyce Winslow is an award-winning short story writer whose work appears in The Best American Short Story Collection. She has won the PEN/NEA award, the Raymond Carver Award and more. She has taught literature at The University of Pittsburgh, Temple University, and UC Berkeley. She teaches fifth grade Judaics with Yiddish stories thrown in at WHC.

7:00 pm at a NW Washington location.

Thursday, March 10

A DISCUSSION ON BLENDED FAMILIES with WHC members Shelley Singer and Michael Gross. Blended families are becoming more of a norm than ever. Today, at least one-third of all children in the U.S. will be a part of a stepfamily before they reach age 18. The daily tasks of bringing two families together and creating a new unit require acts of diplomacy, leaps of faith, biting of tongues, and enormous good will. The process continues at all stages, even after the children have begun to create families of their own. We are hoping to have a candid conversation about how members of our congregation have experienced being a parent in this challenging privilege of a second chance.

7:00 pm at a Bethesda location.

Thursday, April 7

PERFECTIONISM: MOTIVATOR OR DETERRENT with WHC member Janice Herold, a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor who is National Board Certified. In our fast paced, success oriented environment, we may confuse perfectionism with healthy striving. What kind of expectations are we setting for ourselves and for our children? This discussion group will discuss the perfectionist's drive for excellence and achievement. Is it a vice or a virtue? Is perfectionism a motivator or a deterrent? Janice has over twenty five years experience working with a diverse and multicultural adult clientele.

7:00 pm at a Bethesda location.

Thursday, April 28

THE RELEVANCE OF OPERA IN OUR MODERN WORLD. Opera remains one of the most rewarding and lasting artistic endeavors, but continues to be inaccessible to many. In this lecture and discussion, Kenneth R. Feinberg, the current President of Washington National Opera, will explain the nature of opera and how it can become more accessible to the listener. Citing examples from the operatic repertory, Mr. Feinberg will also explain how operas written centuries ago continue to maintain a lasting influence over how we conduct our daily lives by mirroring our fast paced complex society. Audience input will be welcomed. Mr. Feinberg has been a member of the Washington National Opera Board for the past decade and has been its President for the past four years. He is a frequent guest lecturer on the subject of opera, recently taught an opera course at the Levine School of Music in Washington, and founded a private Opera Appreciation Group over thirty years ago.

7:00 pm at a NW Washington location.

HOW TO REGISTER:

Spaces are limited and on a first-come basis, so please sign up soon. Classes are open to all WHC adults, including our 10th grade confirmands and post-confirmands. When you are confirmed for an event, you will receive a reply e-mail[or phone call] with the address of the workshop.

For more information, contact Layne Weiss, lweiss@whctemple.org or 202-895-6307 in Rabbi Lustig's study or Mildred Amer, Adult Education chair, mildredamer@comcast.net.