



CSJO 2013 ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Braided Together: Secular Jewish Communities, the Larger Jewish Community and the World Beyond

Friday, May 24 (4:00 pm) – Monday, May 27 (10:00 am)
West Chester University, West Chester, Pennsylvania, USA

Keynote Speakers

Mindy Blatt
Philadelphia, PA, USA

Samara Cogan
Philadelphia, PA, USA

We look forward to your attendance at the CSJO 2013 annual conference!

We meet once again for an exciting and inspiring weekend. Our host university is offering us wonderful accommodations with comfortable indoor space and plenty of outdoor areas for frisbee and other socializing.

Included in the following pages, you will find all the information you need to experience a great weekend with workshops, entertainment and camaraderie among like-minded old and new friends.

Dear Friends:

In keeping with the times, once again we are sending this year's conference brochure to most of you via e-mail. In years to come, our entire conference planning process will be computerized and done with the help of the Internet. However, while virtual conference calls and meetings are becoming more and more popular, they cannot replace our warm CSJO conference settings. They require close proximity.

We therefore urge you to reserve a "flying-plane" ticket, prepare your ol' faithful station wagon, or walk over to the bus or train terminal to purchase your third-class ticket (wood benches) to West Chester, PA. We are waiting for you with great anticipation.

If you are coming to West Chester via Philadelphia, you can go to www.septa.org and see the many ways to reach the campus. The regional rail will take you to Exton, PA, which is the nearest station to the university, and we can arrange rides for you from there. Those with a more adventurous nature can take the bus and the connecting trolley line. For those of you who need assistance with transportation, please email Sarah Waslow-Washington, Conference Chair, at sarahwaswas87@yahoo.com or call/ text 215-939-2406.

Our local Folkshul youth will host this year's Oneg/Mixers on Friday evening. They know how to throw a party, so it will be fun! On Saturday evening, after the enlightening workshops, there will be top-notch entertainment for the adults and "mysterious happenings" for the youth. Sunday offers another set of great workshops, followed by a banquet, finishing off with the unique talent of our attendees. This year, we will be offering yoga sessions to stretch out the body and expand the mind in the midst of our engaging sessions, so pack your mat and comfy clothes and join us.

Please read through this brochure, fill out the forms and send them to the address on the Registration Packages page. You can also check our website (www.csjo.org) for the latest information.

Sarah Waslow-Washington, Conference Chair,
and
the hardworking members of the planning committee

welcome you to the CSJO 2013 annual conference!

Workshops

Again, we have put together a workshop program that we think reflects the interests and values of our conference participants. The presenters constitute an unusually knowledgeable group of people from all walks of life, including the Secular Humanistic Jewish movement.

As always, the views expressed by the presenters and during the discussions are not shared by everyone. And that is good ... that is what makes for insightful and lively discussions.

We will be joining together for a weekend of learning and mutual understanding, exchange and acceptance, community building and bridging of the generations. We will be sharing ideas and inspire each other for tikkun olam.

Workshop topics – a selection

- ☛ Get updates on CSJO's restructuring activities – Hans Leander and Joan Kurtz
- ☛ The History of Challah – Glen Loev
- ☛ Roundtable Discussion on Community Development – Mindy Blatt
- ☛ Redeeming the Nation: How Should Secular Jews Think About Zionism – Elliot Ratzman
- ☛ Jews in the American Labor Movement from Samuel Gompers to Randi Weingarten – Bennett Muraskin
- ☛ Empathy as a Jewish Value: Bringing Empathy into our Homes and Classrooms – Barry Dancis
- ☛ The Jewish Stake in Immigration Reform – Judi Bernstein-Baker
- ☛ Braiding Mind, Body and Spirit Through Yoga – Lisa Manheim
- ☛ Imaginations Take Flight: Storytelling for Teachers and Students – Michele Belluomini

Preliminary Conference Schedule

Friday, May 24

4:00 – pm	Check-in
6:00 – pm	Dinner (packages 1–5; dinners available for latecomers)
7:30 – pm	Welcome, Oneg Shabbat/oyneg shabbes and mixers

Saturday, May 25

7:30 – 8:45 am	Breakfast
8:00 – 9:00 am	Check-in
9:00 – 10:15 am	Workshop session 1 (adults)
10:30 – 11:45 am	Keynote addresses – Mindy Blatt & Samara Cogan, Philadelphia, PA
12:00 – 1:15 pm	Lunch
12:00 – 1:30 pm	CSJO Board meeting
1:30 – 3:00 pm	Workshop session 2 (adults/youth)
3:00 – 3:15 pm	Break
3:15 – 5:00 pm	Workshop session 3 (adults/youth)
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Dinner
6:45 – pm	Organized activity for the youth
7:30 – pm	Entertainment – followed by refreshments

Sunday, May 26

7:30 – 8:45 am	Breakfast
8:00 – 9:00 am	Check-in
9:00 – 10:15 am	Workshop session 4 (adults)
10:15 – 10:30 am	Break
10:45 – 11:45 am	CSJO Annual Business Meeting
12:00 – 1:15 pm	Lunch
1:30 – 3:00 pm	Workshop session 5 (adults/youth)
3:00 – 3:15 pm	Break
3:00 – 5:00 pm	Youth Business Meeting
3:15 – 5:00 pm	Workshop session 6 (adults)
6:30 – 8:30 pm	Banquet
9:00 – pm	Multi-generational talent show

Monday, May 27

7:00 – 9:00 am	Breakfast
9:00 – 10:00 am	Sholem aleykhem! See you next year!

Registration Packages

All prices listed are for members of CSJO. If not a member, please add \$35.00 to listed prices.

Full conference – with lodging

Package 1 – \$375.00	Adult full package – includes everything (Double occupancy rooms – single occupancy rooms are \$425.00)
Package 2 – \$275.00	Teen package (age 13 – 17) – includes everything
Package 3 – \$255.00	Young adult package (age 18 – 24) – includes everything
Package 4 – \$175.00	First time teen/young adult package (age 13 – 24) – includes everything
Package 5 – \$300.00	Older young adult package (age 25 – 30) – includes everything

Other packages – no lodging (adults only)

Package 6 – \$250.00	Full day & evening package – includes everything except lodging
Package 7 – \$135.00	Saturday day & evening package – includes Saturday workshops, breakfast, lunch, dinner and entertainment
Package 8 – \$135.00	Sunday day & evening package – includes Sunday workshops, breakfast, lunch, banquet and talent show

Important notes

- The prices above are in US dollars for Americans and in Canadian dollars for Canadians!
- Checks must be in US funds.
- For PayPal payments (on www.csjo.org), add a \$7.00 processing fee to your total registration fee.
- Conference fees above are good through May 5, 2013. For registrations postmarked after May 5, 2013, add an additional \$35.00 per registrant.

Registration Form

CSJO 2013 Annual Conference
May 24 – 27, 2013

Please print clearly!

Name _____ Age (pkg 2–5) _____ M/F _____ Veg. food (Y/N): _____
Name _____ Age (pkg 2–5) _____ M/F _____ Veg. food (Y/N): _____
Name _____ Age (pkg 2–5) _____ M/F _____ Veg. food (Y/N): _____
Name _____ Age (pkg 2–5) _____ M/F _____ Veg. food (Y/N): _____

If under 18 years of age, you must include a copy of your birth certificate!

Address _____ City _____

St./Prov. _____ Zip/Postal code _____ Phone _____

E-mail address(es) _____

Primary local group affiliation _____

Is this your first conference? (Y/N) _____

Package No. _____ \$ _____ Package No. _____ \$ _____

Package No. _____ \$ _____ Package No. _____ \$ _____

Total amount enclosed \$ _____

If not a CSJO member or a member of a CSJO affiliate, please add \$35.00 to listed prices.

Conference fees on the Registration Packages page are good through May 5, 2013.
For registrations postmarked after May 5, 2013, add an additional \$35.00 per registrant.

I wish to share a room with (package 2–5) _____

If applicable, my food selection at the banquet is [] Chicken Paillard [] Vegetarian Pad Thai

Special housing or dietary needs _____

We will try our best to accommodate all special needs!

* * * * *

Please pay by check, money order, or cashier's checks (all in US funds only) or via PayPal on www.paypal.com.

Send the form, and, if applicable, a check, money order, or cashier's checks (all in US funds only) to:

CSJO 2013 Annual Conference, c/o Joan M Kurtz, PO Box 448, Intervale, NH 03845, USA

CSJO Emergency Medical Form

Required for everyone under the age of 18.

Please photocopy and send a separate form for each participant under 18 years of age.

Name of teen _____ Birth date ___/___/_____

Allergies _____

Medical conditions _____

Food restrictions _____ Activity restrictions _____

Medicine taken regularly _____ Date of last tetanus shot _____

Health insurance provider (please supply **copy of health insurance card** – required!)

Policy number _____ Group _____

I hereby authorize the CSJO 2013 annual conference organizers to consent to and authorize any necessary emergency medical attention to the teen named above during his/her participation in the CSJO 2013 annual conference. I agree to accept all financial responsibility for any necessary medical attention.

Parent/legal guardian signature _____ Date ___/___/_____

Address _____

Phone where I can be reached (please include area code) _____

Emergency contact, name _____ Phone _____

Emergency contact, name _____ Phone _____

Conference Rules

West Chester University and the CSJO conference organizers have worked hard to ensure an enjoyable, safe, and successful conference. All participants are asked to do their part by using common sense and courtesy and by respecting the rights of others. Below is a set of rules concerning behavior for all individuals using the facilities at West Chester University. They apply, mutatis mutandis, to every participant of the conference.

- No one under the age of 18 may leave the campus except for a medical emergency or when accompanied by a designated adult. No exceptions.
- Weapons and controlled substances are not allowed.
- Alcohol is not allowed on College property.
- No animals are allowed.
- Smoking is not allowed by anyone under the age of 18. Smoking is not allowed in any building.
- Only persons who are registered for the conference are allowed in dormitory rooms or in facilities reserved for the CSJO conference.
- Courtesy is required in all dorm areas.

Declaration Of Responsibility

All parents/guardians of youth under the age of 18, as well as all teens and young adults, must sign this Declaration of Responsibility!

Please photocopy and send a separate declaration for each teen/young adult.

I, _____ give my permission for _____ to attend the CSJO 2013 annual conference. I/we have read the conference rules, and agree to honor them. I accept any legal and financial responsibility for my child/ward while he/she attends the conference, and acknowledge that the Congress of Secular Jewish Organizations (CSJO) and the CSJO 2013 annual conference organizers shall not be responsible for my child's/ward's actions or their consequences. I do understand that the CSJO conference will make the best arrangements possible for the safety of all participants, but that CSJO is not responsible for any injury or loss of property that might occur.

Parent/guardian signature _____ Date ___/___/_____

By signing this document, I agree to follow the rules of the CSJO 2013 annual conference. I understand that I may be required to leave the conference at my own expense, should I fail to follow the rules.

Teen/young adult signature _____ Date ___/___/_____

CONTACTS

If you have questions regarding the CSJO 2013 annual conference,
please contact one of the following persons:

Sarah Waslow-Washington
Conference chair
215-939-2406
sarahwaswas87@yahoo.com

Joan Kurtz
Registrar
603-356-9027
yoninajoan@yahoo.com

Rob Kurtz
Teen/Young Adult Liaison
robertkurtz@gmail.com

Ben Haas
Teen conference coordinator
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Zoe Cogan
Young adult conference coordinator
redeoz@yahoo.com

Jackie Zirlin
Older young adult conference coordinator
jzirlin@hotmail.com