

TIKKUN FELLOWSHIP 2014

Masha Chernyak – Jewish Holidays with Puppets

Masha Chernyak's idea was to allow our littlest Jews to learn the wonderful history of Jewish people as told through plays that are captivating and children friendly. Puppets bring to life stories and help facilitate further discussions between children and parents about Jewish history. Children can interact with various characters, making the entire experience more memorable.

PURIM WITH PUPPETS

Sunday, March 16th, 2014 in Wheeling.

15 Russian-speaking families got together to celebrate Purim at a unique place in Chicagoland - the new Puppet House (Dom Kukol) in Wheeling. Children listened to the Purim story in an interactive Story Time with puppets format, made masks and enjoyed traditional hamentashen. Tikkun Fellow Masha Chernyak introduced her project at this event and found 3 parents who would be happy to volunteer and be involved in her next Puppet Theatre event.



'THE MISTERY OF CHANUKAH' PUPPET PLAY

Sunday, December 7, 2014 in Schechter School, Northbrook.

Masha has organized 12 children aged 4-9 from the after school program at Yachad Kids Academy (Russian Daycare) and their teachers to prepared Chanukah puppet play and perform at the Family Chanukah Celebration organized in partnership with Schechter Jewish Day School. Over 250 children, parents and grandparents attended the event.



David Lisker Echoes of Hope

On Sunday, October 19th at Nichols Concert Hall an acclaimed violinist David Lisker, Tikkun Fellowship recipient, a Juilliard graduate and former student of legendary violinist Itzhak Perlman, presented an unforgettable event celebrating the lives and music of Jewish composers affected by the Holocaust. David, along with 6 renowned musicians from the U.S., Europe and Israel, performed works by 9 inspiring individuals, 8 of whom perished in concentration camps. "This project allowed me to introduce inspiring composers, their stories and music to the Chicago public; bringing them out of the shadow of the Holocaust, and into the spotlight", said David. Over 400 people attended the concert, including 75 Holocaust survivors.



Article about the concert in JUF news: <https://www.juf.org/news/arts.aspx?id=430440>

Photos: <http://www.juf.org/rjd/photo.aspx?id=77>

Videos: www.davidlisker.com/echoes-hope

Igor Kogan - Ethiopian Exodus: in search of lost tribes

Russian-speaking Jewish photographer and RJD's 2014 Tikkun Fellow Igor Kogan organized an exhibition for college students and the Chicago community. His work includes photos from Beta Israel and Felasha villages in Ethiopia where Ethiopian Jews used to live prior to immigrating to Israel. He captured some unique photo artifacts on their way of life.

In November, 'Ethiopian Exodus: in search of lost tribes' began to travel around Chicagoland High Schools as a part of a Hebrew learning program. Igor presented his photos and shared his experience traveling around Ethiopia. Anna Gorbikoff, RJD's Board member and Igor's mentor on this project presented the students with the video about Ethiopian immigration to Israel and facilitated a discussion.

11/05/14 Evanston Township High School

11/07/14 Stevenson High School, Buffalo Grove

11/14/14 Glenbrook North High School

12/09/14 Niles North High School

12/16/14 Highland Park High School



On Sunday, January 11th, 2015 Igor Kogan opened the exhibition with the reception Palette and Chisel Gallery located in the heart of the Gold Coast neighborhood and gathered close to 230 people.



Lina Ostov Yom Ha'atzmaut Family Concert

On May 18th Yom Ha'atzmaut Family Concert gathered close to 200 people to celebrate Israel's 66th Birthday. Organized by RJD's Tikkun Fellow Lina Ostov and a musician Natasha Bodansky and sponsored by the Genesis Philanthropy Group, the concert featured 23 individual and group performances. 25 children from the Russian-speaking Jewish families were preparing for over a month and sang Israeli and Jewish songs, danced, played piano, guitars, violin, cello and recited poems. The concert was held at Solomon Schechter Day School in Northbrook and the school's band, directed by Marsha Rosenson, performed at the concert as well.



Photos: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.624021801026952.1073741861.310048615757607&type=3>

Videos: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=QNL4zKuv1io>

Inna Kostokovsky and Matvey Kostokovsky "On Time and Memory"

Inna and Matvey Kostokovsky, brother and sister and RJD's 2014 Tikkun Fellows were working on a collaborative project. Inna is a professional photographer. Her objective was to create portraits of a group of Russian - Jewish World War II veterans in the Chicagoland area and put together an online exhibition for young Jews in the community. The project serves as a tribute to our veterans and a reminder to younger Jewish adults that we are fortunate to live in the United States today because of the experiences and sacrifices of the older generation.

Matvey is a professional music and sound recorder. His idea for the project involved creating memoir-like audio recordings of life stories of the Jewish elderly in their own words. The goal was to preserve important memories of their youth that relate to significant events in Jewish history, their contributions to the Jewish people, and simply interesting stories that would otherwise be lost and forgotten. These people's lives and stories will undoubtedly become important lessons for future generations of the Jewish community.

This is the website will portraits and stories www.veteransandstories.com

Jennifer Stone Cooking Class Series for Jewish girls

Jennifer Stone, RJD's 2014 Tikkun Fellow has organizes a series of 6 cooking classes for 9 Jewish girls from single-parent families or families with ill parents. She partnered up with Chabbad to use their kosher kitchen together with Rabbi's wife taught girls to cook delicious and simple kosher meals so they can help their families. Each girl created a cooking journal after the classes and sent RJD thank you notes being grateful for this opportunity. Girls asked not to be photographed during the classes.

Olga Kilstein - Positive Jewish Parenting Workshops

Olga Kilstein's ideas was to supply ideas for Russian speaking parents on how to incorporate Jewish traditions into their daily lives and around the holidays by using the Positive Parenting approach. Positive Parenting allows parents to raise responsible and respectful children. It is based on the Adlerian ideas of mutual respect and social action.

One six-week workshop for parents of toddlers was offered by Olga in August at a private house. It was attended by 8 parents. As part of the workshop they discussed the value of feeling of belonging and how this feeling could be developed through cultural customs and traditions.