

JEWISH STUDIES PROGRAM

Save the Date

4TH ANNUAL JEWISH MUSIC SERIES



Mark your calendars for the 2018 Music Series!

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| Aug. 30 Kiddush reception immediately following the performances. | Sep. 27 Oct. 11 Oct. 25 | Nov. 8 Nov. 29 |
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About the Program

The Jewish Studies Program is intended to serve the entire community. It introduces Judaism, Jewish history, and Jewish culture to a wide range of people in order to provide a forum for discussion and activism in response to crucial contemporary issues. It promotes understanding of how faith has affected the lives of all people in an attempt to bring them together.

We welcome you to learn more about the program online
www.sonoma.edu/jewishstudies

Message from the Jewish Studies Program Director

Dear Friends,
Much has happened this last year! I'm thrilled to share that the Jewish Studies Program, in its 11th year, has reached over 4,000 students and community members to date. We continue to expand the classes and programs offered through valuable educational series such as the Jewish Music Series and Jewish Lecture Series, which are so dear to our founders, notably Claude Ganz, Elaine Leeder, and Mike Ezra and other dedicated community members.

This past Fall, the Jewish Music Series brought in hundreds of community members to enjoy our series of seven concerts, which took place in Schroeder Hall. The concerts continue to provide diverse music education to our students and community members.

I'm also excited to share that we recently welcomed an additional faculty member to our team, Dr. Ziv Rubinovitz, a visiting professor from Haifa, Israel. Ziv joins our other dedicated instructors, Rabbi Henry Schrieberman and Josh Horowitz, and continues to bring meaningful topics to our Jewish Lecture Series. We continue to fulfill the core fundamentals of the Jewish Studies Program, which are to reach as many students and community members as possible with educational programs in the history, culture, language and religious practices of Jewish people.

Looking forward, we will continue to expand our reach of programs to our students and community members in 2018 and beyond.

The Jewish Studies Program exists because of the dedication and support of you, our donors and volunteers. We can't thank you enough for your support and we look forward to seeing you at a future event.

Warm regards and Happy Hanukkah,



Brian S. Wilson
Brian S. Wilson

Israel Institute Teaching Fellow Joins SSU



Dr. Ziv Rubinovitz joined the SSU faculty Fall 2017. Prior to his time at SSU, he was a Research Fellow at the Menachem Begin Heritage Center, studying the rise and decline of the autonomy concept 1967-1982. He is a Ph.D. in International Relations from the University of Haifa, Israel. Ziv's major fields of research are focused around American foreign policy and grand strategy, Israeli foreign policy issues, particularly the peace process with Egypt, and the US-Israel relations. He brings a wealth of knowledge with him to our students and will offer three classes in Spring 2018. We welcome his expertise and look forward to his continued contributions to our Jewish Studies Program.

Alumni Spotlight Dan Versman



Dan Versman graduated from Sonoma State University in 2015 with a triple major in Music Performance, Psychology, and Jewish Studies. The Jewish Studies Program along with his passion for music helped broaden his outlook and inspired further research into the rich history of Jewish music.

Following graduation, Dan toured the country with his Folk band and played at numerous venues in over 30 states! He currently resides in San Diego and is a music teacher in La Jolla, California.

Dan shares,

"The Jewish Studies program at Sonoma State University showed me how to incorporate Judaism into facets of my life that I previously thought were culturally insignificant. I continue to draw parallels between my work and the Jewish Studies education I received. I am continually grateful for the Jewish Studies education I received and am proud to be a graduate from SSU."

