



SJHS in Louisville: Home and Belonging in a Multifaceted South

The first-ever SJHS conference in Kentucky, held in Louisville on November 1–3, 2024, proved both lively and enlightening. With a heightened focus on Kentucky but presentations that surveyed the South from Maryland to Texas (who knew that there was a Workmen’s Circle branch in Houston?), the conference, themed “Home and Belonging in the Jewish South,” brought home the diversity and complexity of the southern Jewish experience. Our host, the Filson Historical Society, decidedly enhanced the meeting through the expertise and professionalism of its staff and the opportunity to access its rich collections.

On Friday, conference presentations kicked off with the seldom-explored topic of health and medicine. It was followed by a provocative session on Jews and slavery, as panelists probed the “deep communal tensions” within the Jewish population around that invidious institution. A session on teaching the Holocaust in Kentucky was followed by a panel that offered some unusual examples of gentile-Jewish relations.

That evening, conference attendees enjoyed Shabbat dinner and services at the impressive modern synagogue of Louisville’s oldest congregation, The Temple. Delivering the Beeber Family Keynote Lecture, Emily Bingham called out themes of race and memory in an exploration of that misunderstood song, “My Old Kentucky Home.”

A Saturday morning presentation on the Shapell Roster of Jewish Service in the Civil War offered fascinating stories of several Kentucky soldiers. A panel on Americanism and Jews in the South included a talk on Louisville’s Lewis Dembitz (uncle and mentor to Louis Brandeis), among others. At Saturday lunch, Mark Bauman delivered the Dr. Lawrence Kantor Keynote Lecture, a look back at the history of the SJHS journal, *Southern Jewish History*. An eclectic Saturday afternoon panel that ranged from Holocaust memorials to Judah Benjamin yielded to a discussion of Jewish radicalism in the South.

The action then moved out of the conference room as attendees chose among a walking tour of Old Louisville, a perusal of the Filson’s collection, and (what else?) a bourbon-tasting session, where participants learned about flavor profiles, the Bernheim family, and the legal definition of Kentucky bourbon while enjoying the wares of Jewish-owned Heaven Hills distillery. A dinner reception on Saturday night featured Appalachian music by Grace Rogers and Nathan Viner, co-

sponsored by the Jewish Heritage Fund and Beeber Family/Helen Stern Fund.

The conference concluded on Sunday with a thoughtful discussion about oral history, as panelists considered ethical issues of the field and discussed how to deal with controversial or sensitive topics. See pages 2–4 for more conference photos!



Clockwise from top left: a Shabbat welcome from The Temple’s Nicole Watson and The Filson’s Kate Wanke and Brenna Cundiff. *Photo by Jay May.* Panelist Lauren Hill and attendee Sara Klein Wagner in deep discussion. *Photo by Samuel Gruber.* Musicians Rogers and Viner; our host, The Filson; keynote speaker Emily Bingham. *Photos by Jay May.* “Bourbon tasting wheel.” *Photo by Dana Herman.*



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Historical Society

President's Message By Eric L. Goldstein



In 1993, as a graduate student at the University of Michigan, I attended my first SJHS conference in Atlanta in order to receive a student essay prize. More than the details of the prize or the essay (on “Judeophobia in Confederate Georgia”), what I recall most vividly is the warm welcome I received from leaders and members of the Society, who were gracious in their encouragement of a young scholar. Little wonder that seven years later, when I became a professor at Emory University, one of the first things I did was become active in the SJHS. In the years since then, I have had the honor of working alongside, collaborating with, and learning from so many Society members and leaders who have made an indelible impression on me and have helped shape my career in crucial ways.

One of the things I have enjoyed most about the SJHS is the active involvement of both scholars and lay people, each of whom bring different talents, experiences, and perspectives to the organization. As a result of its unique composition, the Society has always been for me a place where study and scholarship are enriched by a strong sense of community. With this in mind, it is a particular honor to serve as SJHS president, knowing that I stand on the shoulders of those who have offered their wisdom and friendship to me over many years. I am also excited by the opportunity to support and encourage a new generation of students and scholars of southern Jewish history, just as I have been nurtured by those who served before me.

Our recent Louisville conference provided a vivid snapshot of the Society's vibrant growth over the past few decades. Program chair Dana Herman and her committee assembled a stimulating program featuring distinguished guest scholars, leading lights of the SJHS, and many presenters—including graduate students and junior faculty—who participated for the first time. As our first meeting held in Kentucky, the conference offered a rare opportunity to learn about Jewish history and culture in the Blue Grass State and marked a new collaboration with our gracious host institution, the Filson Historical Society. The conference also coincided with the publication of the 27th issue of *Southern Jewish History*, which continues to expand the scope of scholarship in our field.

As we begin 2025, we have plenty to anticipate. Back by popular demand will be our “SJHS@Home” series of speaker programs via Zoom. Our Grants Committee, chaired by Ashley Walters, will again offer support to researchers and organizations for projects related to the southern Jewish experience (see page 8). Meanwhile, program chair Jacob Morrow-Spitzer, arrangements chair Jay Silverberg, and their committees are hard at work planning our 49th conference, to be held in New Orleans in October; see page 3 for the Call for Papers and details about the meeting's theme, “Tradition, Resilience, and Reinvention.” Finally, plans are already taking shape for the SJHS's 50th anniversary celebration in Atlanta in 2026.

With great thanks to all of you who support the SJHS through your membership, contributions, and leadership, I look forward to working with you over the next two years to advance our mission!



Left: Jillian Hinderliter presents on women's health activism and NCJW-Atlanta. *Photo by Samuel Gruber.*



Right: Conference presenter and Louisvillian Lev Rooks-Rapport with his parents, Rabbi Joe Rooks Rapport and Rabbi Gaylia R. Rooks, on Friday night at The Temple, where both rabbis served. *Photo by Jay May.*

CALL FOR PAPERS

“New Orleans: Tradition, Resilience, and Reinvention”

49th Annual Conference of the Southern Jewish Historical Society

October 17-19, 2025 New Orleans, Louisiana

The Southern Jewish Historical Society invites proposals for its 49th annual conference, to be held in New Orleans on October 17–19, 2025, in partnership with Tulane University’s Stuart and Suzanne Grant Center for the American Jewish Experience. The conference will take place at two historic synagogues along iconic St. Charles Avenue: Touro Synagogue (Friday and Sunday) and Temple Sinai (Saturday).

New Orleans has long been a vital center of southern Jewish life. Jewish merchants became integral to the city’s commercial landscape by the mid-19th century. Their presence helped shape New Orleans into a major port city, connecting the continental interior with the Caribbean and Europe while also intertwining the Jewish experience with the city’s history of slavery and racism. Over time, Jews have contributed to the unique cultural character of the “Big Easy,” including its tourism, music, cuisine, art, and festivals. Today, the Jewish community remains a dynamic part of the city’s fabric, sustaining vibrant congregations and cultural organizations.



Touro Synagogue, dedicated 1909. *Historic New Orleans Collection.*

This year’s conference marks the 20th anniversary of Hurricane Katrina, a disaster that profoundly impacted New Orleans and its Jewish community. Like other residents, Jews were forced to flee the city. While nearly a third permanently relocated after the disaster, those who returned forged stronger community bonds through local and national Jewish networks. The experience transformed the community’s self-understanding and its relationship to the broader culture of New Orleans. Jewish New Orleans has continued to grow and reinvent itself, punctuated by the landmark opening of the Museum of the Southern Jewish Experience in 2021.

We welcome proposals for panels, individual papers, roundtables, and lightning sessions that explore the Jewish history of New Orleans as well as broader themes of southern Jewish life that the city illuminates. Possible topics include, but are not limited to:

- ▶ Music, food, and culture
- ▶ Regional definitions: What is the South?
- ▶ Commerce, enterprise, and capitalism
- ▶ Political organization and philanthropy
- ▶ Immigration, networks, and transnational ties
- ▶ Gender, sexuality, and identity fluidity
- ▶ Slavery, race relations, and white supremacy
- ▶ Climate and environmental studies

The proposal deadline is **April 1, 2025**. Graduate students, independent scholars, fiction writers, and artists are encouraged to apply. (A limited number of travel grants may be available for graduate students and independent scholars.) Please submit proposals by visiting jewishsouth.org/upcoming-conference. For questions or more information contact Jacob Morrow-Spitzer, conference program chair, at jacob.morrow-spitzer@yale.edu.



Left: Roundtable on Jewish radicalism. From left: Eric Goldstein and Josh Parshall (incoming and outgoing SJHS presidents), Ayelet Brin, and Kate Rosenblatt.



Right: Curator Ann Niren shows conference goers some of the treasures of Filson’s Jewish collections. *Photos by Jay May, courtesy of Filson Historical Society.*

Exhibit at Fort Worth Train Station Features Jewish Refugee Sisters By Hollace Ava Weiner

After two years hiding in a French chateau, 13 days crossing the Atlantic, and one day traveling across the country, two sisters escaping Nazi Europe stepped off a train in Fort Worth in 1941 greeted by flash bulbs. A photo of nine-year-old Inge and 13-year-old Elsa Kokotek appeared in the next day's *Fort Worth Star-Telegram*.

The picture is among 11 larger-than-life photos selected for a new, permanent exhibit at the city's Texas & Pacific Station. Each picture on display in the landmark Art Deco building spotlights passengers who arrived at the station during its heyday—among them FDR and Will Rogers.

The photo of the smiling sisters gives no hint of their traumatic childhoods. Their mother died in 1935 and their father was deported from Germany to Poland. In 1938, relatives put the girls on a kinder transport that evacuated German children



Inge and Elsa Kokotek. *Fort Worth Star-Telegram* Collection/UT Arlington Library Special Collections.

to Paris. After the Nazis invaded France, a relief agency arranged for the pair to board a Mercy Ship to America.

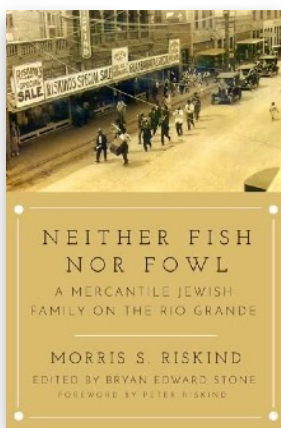
In Fort Worth the Kokotek sisters were welcomed by an aunt and uncle who had immigrated earlier. Elsa flourished, but Inge suffered from mental health issues. Her aunt could not handle the stress, and the girls were taken in by a wealthy Jewish couple in Dallas (the wife volunteered with refugees). Eventually both sisters married and raised children. Inge died in 2006 and Elsa in 2020.

The photo exhibit formally opened in December with a ribbon cutting attended by four out-of-town descendants. It occupies a passageway inside the T&P Station, part of a larger project to renovate the historic terminal.

Hollace Ava Weiner is director of the Fort Worth Jewish Archives and a former SJHS president.

Spanish, English, Yiddish: A Memoir from the Texas Border

Morris Riskind's memoir, *Neither Fish nor Fowl: A Mercantile Jewish Family on the Rio Grande*, edited by SJHS member Bryan Edward Stone, was recently released by Texas Tech University Press. Riskind (1911–1996) was a merchant, rancher, and public official in the border city of Eagle Pass, Texas. His parents founded the town's largest clothing store in 1910. A fixture in the local economy for nearly a century, the store brought high-quality merchandise from New York and Chicago to a diverse mix of ranchers, laborers, soldiers, and others from both sides of the border. The Riskinds and their business operated in three languages—Spanish, English, and Yiddish. Many of their mostly-Latino employees worked at the store for



decades, providing a springboard into the middle class for the children of Mexican tradespeople and farm workers. Meanwhile, in the family's apartment above the store, the Riskinds hosted and led worship services for a tiny Jewish community of fewer than 60 people.

Morris was an unusually observant, worldly, and self-aware writer. His memoir traces a remarkable life trajectory—small-town Jewish boy, Los Angeles lawyer, West Texas farmer and rancher, borderland merchant, and world traveler. It offers new insight into small-town Jewish life, the Texas borderland, and the importance of multigenerational Jewish families in the commercial and civic development of their towns.



In the Louisville panel on Jews and slavery, panelists challenged accepted myths with new research and interpretations. From left: Shari Rabin, Joseph Weisberg, Jacob Morrow-Spitzer, Andrew Gerstenberger. *Photos by Samuel Gruber.*

From Lithuania to Mobile: An Immigrant's Memoir Comes to Light By Deborah Gurt

As I boarded the bus for the ride to Galveston at the 2023 SJHS meeting, I heard someone calling out, "Is there anyone here from Mobile?" After that bus ride and the conversation that followed, I was fortunate to receive on behalf of McCall Library a typescript of the unpublished memoir of one Abraham Miller (1888–1965), from Janova in present-day Lithuania.

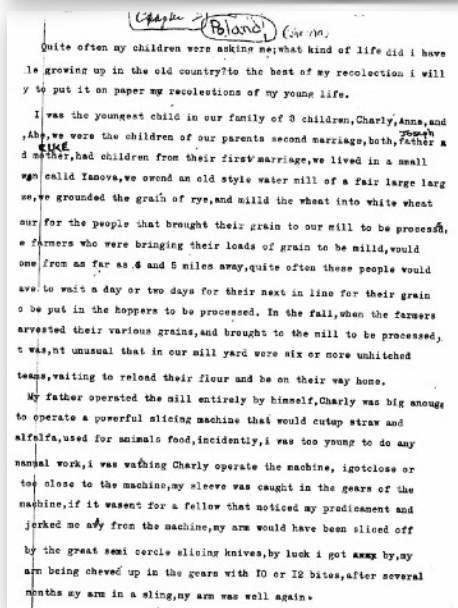
Abe describes his early life at the family-owned mill, his childhood, education, home life, and decision to emigrate. He writes of his father's fear that his youngest son, rather than becoming a rabbi, may be a *meshumad* (an apostate). He vividly narrates the heartbreaking scene when his father finds a *tanach* among Abe's packed belongings and is overcome with emotions of sadness and relief.

Abe tells of the journey to Camden, Alabama, where he arrived in 1909 owning a single pair of pants that reeked of steerage. His odyssey covers familiar ground as he describes peddling along the rural backroads of Alabama and

moving to the great metropolis of Mobile to get established in hopes of bringing over his intended bride.

Like many immigrants, Abe followed family members who came before and who helped him get on his feet. His beloved Minnie soon joined him and ably ran their grocery and dry goods store with him until the birth of their second child. After moving around, in 1924 the business settled in at 612 Texas Street in Down the Bay, a tightly knit working-class neighborhood, primarily Black and Creole, dotted with churches and small businesses. Abe and Minnie retired in 1945.

Other family members would serve the neighborhood until the late 1960s, including Abe's nephews David and Simon, who ran Miller's Variety Store. By that time, the neighborhood had been riven by the construction of Interstate 10 and other urban renewal projects. As I searched our collections for relevant images, I found a 1968 photo made by realtor Julius Marx as he prepared to sell the property.



Top: Miller's Variety Store, 1968. *Julius E. Marx Collection, Doy Leale McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of South Alabama.*

Left: Typescript memoir of Abe Miller, donated by his great-niece Valerie Novy. *Miller Family Collection, Doy Leale McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library, University of South Alabama.*

continued on page 6...

Saga of a Texas Jewish Cowboy By Sheldon Lippman

When Charles B. "Chuck" Hart died at 89 last summer, he not only left a legacy of accomplishments, but Texas lost one of a rare breed—a Jewish cowboy. Chuck's passion for horses grew from his youth when he would ride ponies on Main Street in his hometown of Houston for 10 cents. His first job as a wrangler was at a music camp in Center Point, Texas, as a teenager. He competed in bareback riding at the University of Houston, where he was president of the Rodeo Association. After serving in the Army, Chuck spent 20 years teaching horseback riding to campers at Echo Hill Ranch in Medina, Texas. He passed his knowledge and skills in the saddle to his son and grandson, who carried on his wrangling legacy at Echo Hill Ranch for many years.

Chuck met his wife Jan at Echo Hill. For decades, they hosted 60 to 70 extended family



Charles Hart. *Courtesy of Sheldon Lippman.*

members at their annual Chanukah party at their ranch in Temple, Texas. The couple also served as keepers of the 100-year-old family Torah, stored safely in their home in what resembled a gun cabinet. Charles and Jan were longtime members of the Texas Jewish Historical Society, and Charles served as president from 2002 to 2004. He never showed up at a TJHS meeting without his Stetson hat and cowboy boots.

Chuck was not the lone Jewish cowboy in Texas. He and others were featured in a 2021 *Texas Highways* magazine article, "The Cowboy Spirit is a Way of Life for These Texas Jewish Cowboys." You can read it online at texashighways.com/issue/september-2021.

Sheldon Lippman is past president of the Texas Jewish Historical Society.

Finding Shelter in Community:

Western North Carolina Jews Face Hurricane Helene By Sharon Fahrer

On Friday, September 27, Hurricane Helene hit western North Carolina. Winds, felled trees, landslides, and flood waters destroyed homes, cars, businesses, and more. Roads became impassable because they collapsed or were blocked by fallen trees. Internet, cell service, water, and power vanished. The region was cut off almost completely. There are so many stories to tell. Some are tragic and others nothing short of miracles.

Members of the Jewish community have some of those stories.

Rochelle Reich, executive director of Asheville's Beth Israel Congregation, lost nearly everything in her apartment along the Swannanoa River. Luckily, realizing the area might flood, she and her youngest son had gone to stay with friends. In the middle of the night, two trees fell on her friends' house. Miraculously, no one was injured. On Friday afternoon, not knowing the enormity of the damage, she drove through downed trees and powerlines to her home and saw her building engulfed by a muddy lake of receding waters. On Sunday she trudged through eight-inch-high mud to finally enter her apartment. Inside, it was evident that the water had reached the ceiling. She was suddenly homeless. Among the few things she was able to retrieve were several menorahs, her grandmother's Shabbat candlesticks, and her great-grandfather's tallit.

Asheville's Jewish community dates from the 1880s; its first congregation, Beth HaTephila, was founded in 1891 and Beth Israel started in 1899. Thankfully, their synagogues and the city's third synagogue were undamaged. (Downtown also escaped unscathed—thus sparing structures that represent more than a century of Jewish contributions to local business and civic life.)

Almost immediately, the synagogues contacted their congregants to identify those who needed help, even driving around to find people and delivering chainsaws, gas, and water. The JCC organized a bucket brigade at its pool for people who needed water for toilets and

dishwashing. Help poured in from across the country, including the Jewish Federations of North America (JFNA), congregations, and individuals. One Beth Israel member helped organize the delivery of six semi-tractor trailers from a fire department on Long Island! These supplies were distributed by Asheville Buncombe Community Christian Ministries and Jewish Family Services (JFS). Chabad-Lubavitch of Western North Carolina became a command center for organizations sending assistance and rescue workers.

By Rosh Hashanah, five days later, there was still a 7 pm curfew and no power, water, or cell service. When volunteers could not get to Chabad to prepare a holiday meal, Emergency Culinary Solutions appeared with a crew, helping the Jewish community to bond. By Yom Kippur, daytime services could be held inside buildings with power, but no water, just port-a-johns.

JFS was an anchor for the Jewish community and beyond, providing emergency assistance, supplies, counseling, and financial aid. The Tzedek Social Justice Foundation provided funds to JFS for emergency expenses, aiding over 1,000 mostly non-Jewish families. Other grantors to our Jewish institutions loosened restrictions so monies could be used wherever needed. JFNA gave funds for port-a-johns and Starlink connections. Nechama helped with cleanup and Hillel sent student volunteers. J Responders came from Raleigh-Durham. Carolina Jews for Justice helped voters participate in the election, offering rides to the polls and other services.

Hurricane Helene brought the Jewish community together, pooling resources and coordinating information. In fact, a strong, inclusive, supportive community emerged throughout the area. But there is much work left ahead. Now the challenge is providing support to keep Jewish organizations operating while addressing long term needs.

Sharon Fahrer is a long-time member of SJHS and an independent scholar from Asheville. She has led walking tours of Asheville Jewish history for many years.



Top: Asheville, one day after the deluge. Photo by Sharon Fahrer.

Middle and bottom: Aerial views of Asheville and nearby Swannanoa. North Carolina Department of Transportation.

From Lithuania to Mobile: An Immigrant's Memoir Comes to Light continued from page 5...

Look closely on the left: the boarded-up shop across the street has been defaced with a swastika. The turmoil of I-10 construction and displacement of residents had a lasting impact on the community. This intersection of a Jewish immigrant story and the Down the Bay story is fertile ground for more exploration.

Abe Miller's memoir is available at the McCall Library for research and will soon be accessible online through [JagWorks](#).

Deborah Gurt is director of the Doy Leale McCall Rare Book and Manuscript Library at the University of South Alabama.

NEWS AND NOTES

Montgomery Congregation to Hold 20th Annual Food Festival



Latkes are a festival favorite. Courtesy of Temple Beth Or.

Temple Beth Or of Montgomery, Alabama, will host its 20th annual Jewish Food Festival & Treasure Market on Sunday, February 23, beginning at 10 am. Year after year the Montgomery community enjoys delicious, homemade Jewish foods as well as great bargains and special finds in the accompanying Treasure Market.

The Food Festival features mouth-watering Jewish specialties such as slow-cooked, tender beef brisket; cabbage rolls; noodle kugel; hot, fresh potato latkes; quajado; and matzah ball soup. Many items can be purchased frozen and enjoyed later. Baked goods include challah, rugelach, mandel bread, curabies, and strudel. In addition to homemade goodies there are all-beef kosher hotdogs and Carnegie Deli cheesecakes. The Treasure Market offers one-of-a-kind, pre-loved items at bargain prices, including jewelry, silver, antiques, glassware, artworks, lamps, furniture, and household items.

The Jewish Food Festival and Treasure Market means lots of work for Temple Beth Or members in the months leading up to the big day, but they say they can't imagine not having the event. Lots of laughter and enjoying each other's company keep the event going, year after year.

Podcast Depicts Jewish Arrival in Georgia Colony



James Oglethorpe statue, Augusta. Wikimedia Commons.

Lance Toland Entertainment has launched the podcast *Flames of Freedom*, a historical drama that portrays the Jewish escape from European oppression to Georgia in 1733. Season One's 12 episodes are available on all major podcasting platforms and YouTube.

Using professional actors, robust sound design, and original music, the docudrama chronicles how 42 courageous Jews risked their lives to cross the Atlantic, hoping to settle in the Georgia Colony and build a new life of religious freedom and economic opportunity. Bonus interviews with scholars, dispersed throughout the series, delve into the backstories of the

Inquisition, the world of the Conversos who were forced to abandon Judaism and adopt Catholicism, the Jew-hatred prevalent in England, and the unique and revolutionary leadership of James Oglethorpe, who founded the Georgia Colony in 1733 and who accepted the Jewish arrivals despite opposition from the colony's trustees.

For more information and updates, visit flamesoffreedom.net.

Noted Rabbi-Scholar Releases Second Volume of Trilogy



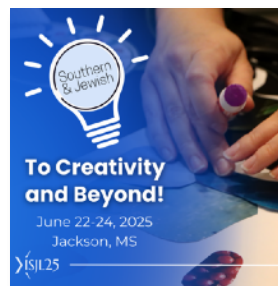
Rabbi Lance J. Sussman launched his latest book, *Portrait of a Reform Rabbi: Continuity and Change*, in September. An anthology of articles Sussman has written about Reform Judaism over the course of his rabbinic career, the volume is a companion to his *Portrait of an American Rabbi: In His Own Words*, published in 2023. The final volume of his expected trilogy is currently in progress. Sussman is rabbi emeritus at

Reform Congregation Keneseth Israel in Elkins Park, Pennsylvania. He has published numerous works, including articles on southern Jewish history. *Portrait of a Reform Rabbi* is available on amazon and barnesandnoble.com. He can be reached at lancejsussman@gmail.com.

Charleston Research Fellowship Announced

The Pearlstine/Lipov Center for Southern Jewish Culture invites applications for its research fellowship program, which supports archival research in Special Collections at the College of Charleston. Scholars, graduate students, journalists, filmmakers, artists, and exhibition curators are welcome to apply. Preference will be given to researchers using materials from the Jewish Heritage Collection. Applications are due by March 1, 2025. Visit jewish-south.cofc.edu for applications and info. Inquiries can be addressed to CSJC director Ashley Walters at waltersa1@cofc.edu.

ISJL Conference Welcomes All



The Goldring/Woldenberg Institute of Southern Jewish Life (ISJL) invites everyone with a connection to Jewish life in the South to its annual conference, "Southern & Jewish," June 22–24, 2025, in Jackson, Mississippi. This year's theme is "To Creativity & Beyond." The conference will provide resources and engagement for

congregations and individuals throughout the South. Pre- and post-conference activities will explore Jackson, a community full of history and cultural opportunities.

There is no conference fee; attendees will be charged only for room and board. To learn about last year's conference, see isjl.org/conference, with updated information about the 2025 "Southern & Jewish" lineup coming soon.



Member Spotlight

Heather Nathans (Cambridge, MA)



When did you join the SJHS and why?

I joined after participating in an extraordinary 2019 NEH summer program organized by Shari Rabin, Dale Rosengarten, and Michael Cohen. That NEH project allowed me to meet many of the pillars of the SJHS!

What is your favorite part of SJHS membership?

I appreciate *The Rambler* for spotlighting exactly the kind of history that I enjoy pursuing—stories of communities, precious artifacts, or accomplished individuals that reveal so much about the development of American Jewish history.

What is a piece of southern Jewish history (a book, article, site, or something else) that you would recommend?

As a theatre scholar, I think about the ways in which sites of theatrical performance intersect with the spaces around them and how those spaces become layered with new performances over time. For example, the Levy Opera House in Charlottesville (1887) was once owned by the family that helped to rescue Monticello. It now serves as a city court building. It sits on the same block as the Albemarle County Courthouse, which boasted a monument to the Confederacy erected in 1909 and removed in 2020. In 2019, the Equal Justice Initiative erected a monument honoring John Henry James, a Black man lynched by a Virginia mob. Just up the street from the monument, courthouse, and opera house, a plaque embedded in the sidewalk marks an auction site for enslaved people. For me, that *one block* of Charlottesville highlights the complicated performances of memory in the South.

I walked that block at my very first SJHS conference in 2019. The Confederate statue still stood just around the corner from the lynching monument, and on the sidewalk plaque, where it read “slaves were sold here,” someone had taken a piece of chalk and crossed out “slaves” to write “people.” Flowers marked the site as well. As I navigated a street teeming with so many performances of memory, it challenged me to explore the tangled connections between southern, Jewish, gentile, Black, and white identities in new ways and to imagine how they might all perform simultaneously.

Our new “Member Spotlight” seeks participants! If you are open to being featured in a forthcoming Rambler, please send your answers to SJHS vice-president Shari Rabin at sharirabin@gmail.com.

CALL FOR GRANT SUBMISSIONS



The SJHS offers grants for projects relevant to Southern Jewish History. Categories include project completion grants, research grants, and archival grants. Deadline for applications is March 14, 2025.



For more information and application guidelines, see jewishsouth.org/sjhs-grants-applications. If you require more information, contact waltersal@cofc.edu