



Judaism Unbound Resources



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In early March of 2020, as one Jewish event after another was suddenly being cancelled due to the COVID-19 coronavirus pandemic, the team behind the Judaism Unbound podcast realized that we were about to experience months in which not one in-person Jewish event would take place. And many events that would have been in person—ranging from synagogue services to large conferences—would have to migrate to the digital landscape to which we migrated some years ago. And we knew that physical distancing would bring loneliness and a sense of social isolation for many people.

We also saw that this situation created an opportunity for many Jews, and non-Jews, to connect to Jewish experiences that they might have been intimidated to join in person. And it created many other opportunities: to find commonality and community across distance; to create experiences for others; to re-think elements of Jewish life that may not have been working so well before but that had inertia.

We thought that we could help by creating a port of entry into live Jewish events in cyberspace. Think of jewishLIVE as the international airport or as the Grand Central Station serving the new land of online Judaism.

Our mission is to help you find what you're looking for and get you there quickly. This web site combines a calendar events with beaming from "Star Trek" because if you discover that something is happening right now, you can just go there in a single click!

We also realized that there might not be a live event happening when you needed one, so we decided to start producing our own live events as well—together with many, many partners, ranging from individuals to large organizations. Our aim is to have live events on our "stages" 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. It might take us a little while to get there, but we're making rapid progress.

You can also think of jewishLIVE as a digital Jewish Community Center (JCC). We are pleased to offer our (Zoom) rooms to individuals and organizations who want to produce live events but may not have enough Zoom capacity or tech know-how to share their creativity and genius with the world. If you have an idea for something you would like to create, get in touch with us. If you have your own digital place but you want some tech help or advice, we'd be glad to help get you going on your own and help you promote it with links on our calendar, our Facebook group, our email found-ups, and in other ways.

This is a work-in-progress. If you have ideas for what else we might be doing, during the period of the pandemic or when it's over, please let us know. We are also in great need of volunteers to help us manage all this, as well as folks who can contribute some technical know-how to help us improve. And we really do need money —not a lot, but some, and we are grateful for any support you can provide to keep this going.

jewishLIVE is a project of the Institute for the Next Jewish Future, a 501(c)(3) organization. Judaism Unbound is also a project of the Institute. We are able to accept checks made out to jewishLIVE, Judaism Unbound, or The Institute for the Next Jewish Future.