Swig Program in Jewish Studies and Social Justice

September Newsletter

As we approach the Jewish New Year, Rosh Hashanah, we invite you to engage in meaningful learning opportunities at USF to nourish the soul. During the month leading up to this important annual celebration, Jewish tradition encourages us to engage in deep personal and communal introspection to reflect on the past year and contemplate what we want for the future. The Swig Program in Jewish Studies and Social Justice is committed to playing whatever part we can, however small, in transforming the world as it is into the world as it can be. Our public events are opportunities to hear from and learn with incredible individuals who will help us engage in the process of reflection and introspection, and empower us to work towards creating a more just world. We hope to see you on campus soon.

Shana tova u’metukah. May you have a good and sweet new year.
Refugees in America

*Tuesday, Sept. 10, 6:30–8 p.m. • Maraschi Room, Fromm Hall*

“Hope is the oxygen of my life.” These insightful words of Meron Semedar, a refugee from Eritrea, reflect the feelings of the eleven men and women featured in *Refugees in America: Stories of Courage, Resilience, and Hope in Their Own Words*, a new book written by Rabbi Lee Bycel, the USF Sinton Visiting Professor in Holocaust, Genocide, and Refugee Studies. Join us as Bycel shares the empowering stories from his incredible new book.
Uprooted: A Memoir of a Marriage

*Wednesday, Sept. 25, 1–2 p.m. • Room 251, McLaren Hall*

Recently retired USF Hebrew Professor **Esti Skloot** will speak about her new book, *Uprooted: A Memoir of a Marriage*, which documents her experiences crossing literal and cultural borders in her move from England to Israel to the United States.
October and November JSSJ Events

We also have more exciting events coming up thereafter, two in October and two in November. If you have any questions about these events please contact the Swig JSSJ Program Assistant Director, Oren Kroll-Zeldin, omkrollzeldin@usfca.edu.

- **Hard-Core Jews: Woody Allen’s Religious Women and Men**  
  *Thursday, Oct. 3, 6:30–8 p.m. • Berman Room, Fromm Hall*

- **Cosmic Diaspora Trio Band**  
  *Thursday, Oct. 17, 6:30–8 p.m. • Tarantino Plaza, Malloy Hall*

- **Climate Change, Disability, and the Politics of Survival (Fifth annual Human Rights Lecture)**  
  *Thursday, Nov. 7, 6:30–8 p.m. • Maraschi Room, Fromm Hall*

- **Jews of Uganda: Chief Rabbi Gershom Sizomu**  
  *Thursday, Nov. 14, 6:30–8 p.m. • Maeir Room, Fromm Hall*
Student Opportunity

**JFCS Holocaust Center's University Fellowship**

Are you a Bay Area university student with a passion for history and social justice? The JFCS Holocaust Center is now accepting applications for the **Pell and Manovill University Fellowships**. University Fellows become essential members of the Holocaust Center staff. Fellows mentor students, conduct research in the Tauber Holocaust Library and Archives, and create innovative lesson plans. The fellowship is a paid position with a commitment of 10 hours per week, October through June. Fellows may receive course credit upon completion. Both undergraduates and graduate students are encouraged to apply. Applications will be accepted through Sept. 23. For questions, contact Dr. Yedida Kanfer at [yedidak@jfcs.org](mailto:yedidak@jfcs.org) or **(415) 449–3748**.