



JEWISH COMMUNITY RELATIONS COUNCIL
of San Francisco, the Peninsula, Marin, Sonoma, Alameda and Contra Costa Counties

For Immediate Release
May 1, 2015

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First San Francisco City Hall Celebration of Jewish Heritage Month May 20

San Francisco, CA – Today is the first day of Jewish American Heritage Month, and the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC) is pleased to announce San Francisco City Hall will host its first-ever celebration of Jewish heritage from 6:00pm to 7:30pm on May 20, 2015.

The San Francisco Jewish community has made countless contributions to the city's cultural heritage, civic life and economic growth, and we are looking forward to an exhilarating program commemorating these deep historical ties. Although San Francisco's Jewish community has been deeply involved in the civic, cultural, and political life of the City since the days of the Gold Rush, there has never been an event in City Hall to recognize the robust role the Jewish community and members of our community play throughout the City.

"We are extremely proud to be hosting the first-ever commemoration of Jewish Heritage Month at San Francisco City Hall in partnership with Mayor Ed Lee, Supervisor Scott Wiener, and the Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund," said Rabbi Doug Kahn, JCRC Executive Director. "Recognition of the extensive contribution that San Francisco's Jewish community has made to the city's development from its very beginnings is well-deserved and greatly appreciated by our community whose engagement stems from a love affair with the City, its welcoming environment historically and all it has to offer."

The event will feature a thirty-minute program. Speakers will include San Francisco Mayor Edwin M. Lee and Supervisor Scott Wiener. San Francisco State University's Richard and Rhoda Goldman Chair in Jewish Studies and Social Responsibility Marc Dollinger, Ph.D., will give a brief history of the extensive engagement that Jews have had in San Francisco's illustrious history, and there will be a musical performance by children from the Brandeis-Hillel Day School. A reception is planned in the north atrium of City Hall following the program. There is no charge to attend, but registration is required: tinyurl.com/SFJewishHeritage.

This event would not be possible without contributions from the Jewish Community Federation and Endowment Fund and our many community partners, including Anti-Defamation League–Central Pacific Region, Bend the Arc: A Jewish Partnership for Justice, Brandeis Hillel Day School, Congregation Beth Shalom, Jewish Family and Children's Services, Jewish Community High School of the Bay, Jewish Home of San Francisco, JVS, National Council of Jewish Women–San Francisco, San Francisco Hillel, Shalom Bayit and Walter & Elise Haas Foundation. Special thanks also to L'chaim Foods for providing kosher hors d'oeuvres and desserts.

Throughout the month, JCRC will be using the hashtag **#SFJewishHeritage** on Twitter and Facebook as we post tidbits of San Francisco Jewish history.

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