



# Steven D. Kris Named Chair of National Jewish Health Board of Directors



*Steven D. Kris*

*This Week's Torah Mishpatim*

 *Candle lighting - 5:20 pm*

## In this week's Scroll

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***Steven D. Kris Named Chair of National Jewish Health Board of Directors***


***New JMNJ Exhibit features Jewish women artists***

***Walking Suicide out of the Darkness***

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 Steven D. Kris is the new Chair of the Board of Directors for National Jewish Health, the nation's leading

respiratory hospital.


Kris is the principal of Conundrum Capital LLC, a private investment company. He also serves as a board member and advisor to several portfolio companies. He has been a member of the National Jewish Health Board of Directors since 2008, including service on the Finance and Executive Committees and as chair of the Investment Committee. Kris's father, Alan Kris, was a National Jewish Health Trustee from 1979 to 1981.

Kris serves on the boards and committees of several charitable institutions, including Children's Hospital Foundation. In 2007, he received the Kal Zeff Businesses Leader Award from Jewish Family Service of Colorado. Steve earned a BBA in Finance from the University of Colorado in 1988 and is married with two children.

"We are thrilled to have Steve assume leadership of our Board of Directors," said Michael Salem, MD, President and CEO of National Jewish Health. "His deep knowledge of National Jewish Health will be invaluable as we chart a course for the future."

Former Board Chair Rich Baer added, "It is tremendously rewarding to lead the Board of Directors for this extraordinary organization. I am confident that Steve will provide thoughtful, wise guidance as the new chair, and I offer him my support and well wishes as he takes on this leadership role."

National Jewish Health is the leading respiratory hospital in the nation. Founded 121 years ago as a nonprofit hospital, National Jewish Health today is the only facility in the world dedicated exclusively to groundbreaking medical research and treatment of

patients with respiratory, cardiac, immune and related disorders. Patients and families come to National Jewish Health from around the world to receive cutting-edge, comprehensive, coordinated care. To learn more, visit [www.njhealth.org](http://www.njhealth.org). 

## Birthday Wishes from Ahavas Sholom

This week it is our pleasure to celebrate the birth of three of our members; Joan Podnos, Max Herman, Jeff Haveson.

A Belated happy Birthday to you all; we hope the love of family, friends, and all who been touched by you, made this day truly memorable for you.



### Congregation Ahavas Sholom

**President – Eric Freedman**  
**Rabbi Simon Rosenbach**  
**Cantor – Fred Grabiner**  
**Gabbai - Hooshmand Delshad**  
**Webmaster – Jeff Haveson**  
**Scroll Editor – Bezalel Tim Lee**



# "Reinventing Eve", a new exhibit exploring the works of female Jewish Artists coming to The Jewish Museum

By Max Herman

**H**istorically Museums and art galleries have favored the work of male artists. In celebration of Women's History month, New Jersey Jewish women artists will take the spotlight in an exciting, and provocative exhibition at the Jewish Museum of NJ.

"Reinventing Eve", which is curated by Judy Beck and Gail Winbury, will be held at the Jewish Museum of New Jersey, located at Congregation Ahavas Sholom, 145 Broadway in Newark, from March 29, 2020 until May 24, 2020.

The ten artists are: Aliza Augustine, Siona Benjamin, Judy Beck, Marilyn Belford, Harriet Finck, Jamie Levine, Jen Levine, Madelyn Shaw, Gail Winbury and Etty Yaniv.

"Reinventing Eve" explores the identities and diversity of these Jewish female artists. The viewer is asked to wonder "what do these artists share in common and how are they different"? The show displays traditional arts previously thought to be domestic, as well as cutting-edge contemporary art. It features painting, sculpture, quilts, fiber, religious scrolls and photography.

These ten artists mine the substance of their personal lives, current political realities, and, for some, the place of religion in their lives. The artists represent the continuum of Judaism from secular to observant.

**February 21, 2020**

## *Reinventing Eve*



*"Medea" by Marilyn Belford*

**Aliza Augustine** was born in Israel, and has a BFA in painting from the Rhode Island School of Design. Since a 2006 residency at the School of Visual Arts in photography, Augustine has pursued photography. Her work in this exhibition documents second-generation daughters of Holocaust survivors. In 2015, She received a Julia Cameron Award for Documentary and Editorial Photography. In 2017, her work was in the Whitney Museum, as part of "Debt Fair". Solo and two-person shows include: The Woodrow Wilson Institute, Kean University's Human

Rights Gallery, the Monmouth Museum and the Mary H Dana Women's artist series at Rutgers university.

**Siona Benjamin** is an award-winning painter originally from Bombay, India. Her work reflects being raised Jewish in a predominantly Muslim and Hindu country. In her paintings she combines the imagery of her past with the role she plays in America today, making a mosaic inspired by both Indian miniature paintings and illuminated manuscripts. Benjamin received a Fulbright Fellowship in 2010-11 in India and a second Fulbright fellowship in 2016-17 to Israel. She has her first MFA in painting from Southern Illinois University-Carbondale, IL and a second MFA in Theater set design. She has undergraduate degrees from J.J. School of Art in Mumbai and an apprenticeship in photography also from J.J. School of Art. She exhibits her work in the US, Europe and Asia.

**Judy Beck** is a "fiber artist", with an MA from Montclair State University in Visual Arts, a BA from Brooklyn College. She studied design at the NY School of Interior Design. Beck taught design and architecture at Montclair University. Her design work has been published in "Metropolitan Home" magazine. She is a judge for Art awards at Scholastic Magazine this year. Her fiber works were included in the 2017 and 2019 New Jersey Fiber Arts Annual shows at the Morris Art Museum, and the Montclair Art Museum,. She has had a one-woman show at the Hawthorn, NJ public Library. She is a founder of the Montclair Crafters Guild.

**Marilyn Belford**, an award-winning quilter, is well known for her realistic fabric portraits and art quilts.

She comes to the quilting community after a long and successful career in the art world. Belford works' have been shown at the AQS show in Paducah, Quilters' Heritage Celebration in Lancaster, the IQA International Show in Houston, TX, the Schweinfurth Museum in Auburn, NY and other museums and shows nationally. Marilyn has been teaching at Quilt University since 2003. She has written an article on her method for Chitra Publication's magazine Quilting Today, has been featured in ARTSmagazine, and has been favorably reviewed in newspapers in New York.

**Harriet Finck**, originally trained as an architect, has a M.Arch. from Harvard University. After many years working for IMPei and Co., she traded her hard edge, for a paint brush. Finck investigated her connection to biblical texts a number of years ago, when she was a member and then a teacher in an Artists' Beit Misha. She saw possibilities for her painting practice in the formative layers of her yeshivah education. Finck taught art at Parsons and at William Paterson University, and is a faculty member at the Art School at Old Church in Bergen County, NJ. Her last solo exhibit was at W83 Gallery, in Manhattan. She will be in a two person show at the Center Gallery, Demarest, NJ, in February.

**Jamie Levine's** studio is at Manufacturers Village in East Orange. Her work harkens to Classical Greek Mythology and is inspired by modern day Chimera. She sculpts touching, disturbing and whimsical beings, neither fully human, nor fully animal; they are hybrids. The natural world provides a metaphor for complex ideas and emotions. Levine sees her art studio as a lab for finding newer and healthier ways of living, and for hard to face global problems with humor and compassion.

Levine holds a BFA in Textile design from Syracuse University, an MFA in Sculpture from Montclair University and was a Resident in the School of Visual Arts Nature and Technology Lab. Her work appeared in numerous group exhibitions in the New York area and abroad.

**Jennifer Levine** has won many awards in the arts and shows her work thorough out New Jersey. Levine is a self-taught/outsider artist whose current body of work is inspired by her journey as a single mother raising a teenage daughter. Her work manifests the vulnerabilities and strengths of women's' experience-including pregnancy and menopause. Having discovered painting at the age of 40, she founded "The Peace Garden Song and Mural Project ([peacegardenproject.com](http://peacegardenproject.com)). To date, she has worked with over 1000 New Jersey school children. She is currently a teaching artist with Morris Arts and the New Jersey State council on the arts.

**Madelyn Shaw** established an art studio in New Jersey in 1987. She has lived in Europe and the Middle East. Shaw has shown her work in: Ellarslie Museum, Aljira Gallery, Newark, Montclair University, Penn State University, Rutgers University and many more. She attended the High School of Music and Arts in Manhattan and was mentored by Chinese-American artist Dorothy Yung.

**Gail Winbury** shows in museums and galleries in US, Europe, and Mexico, including; Henrich Heine Haus, Germany, William James College, Boston, Jersey City Museum, and in Matera, Italy. She had: a Painting Residency at the School of Visual Arts, an Arts Fellowship from the Bau Foundation, Italy, and a Jewish

Federation grant for an art exchange in Israel. In 2020, Winbury will have a one-woman show in Manhattan and in Pittsburgh, Pa, and a group show at The Carter Burden Gallery. A yearlong exhibition of Winbury's work is at the Co-Co in Summit, sponsored by the Center for Visual Arts, NJ. Her art addresses the psychological world. She has a doctorate in psychology, studied at the School of Visual Arts, with Dorothy Yung, and Joan Snyder.

**Ettty Yaniv**, who was raised in Israel, is an art-writer, artist and curator with a studio in Brooklyn. She has exhibited her work in solo and group shows at galleries and museums nationally and internationally, including The Haifa Museum of Art, Israel, State Silk Museum, Tbilisi, Georgia, Newark Museum of Art, Monmouth Museum. She draws on patterns from nature and images from daily life to form hybrid landscapes which blur the line between the chaotic and the orderly, the real and the imagined, the organic and the artificial. In 2018 she was awarded the Two Trees subsidized studio program in Dumbo. She holds BA in Psychology and English Literature from Tel Aviv University, BFA from Parsons School of Design, and MFA from SUNY Purchase.

**"Reinventing Eve"** runs from Sunday, March 29th through Sunday, May 24th . The opening reception will take place March 29th from 1-4 pm during which several artists will speak about their work.

Programs are scheduled for 4 Sundays during the run of the exhibition:

•**Sunday, April 19th** 2pm Marilyn Belford-Trunk: show and artist talk.

•**Sunday, April 26th** - 2pm Screening and discussion of


the award-winning documentary  
about artist Eve Hesse.

**Sunday, May 3rd** - 2pm Panel: Jewish Identity and its  
influence in the creation of art"

**Sunday, May 17th** - 2-4 pm Collage making  
workshop with Harriet Finck: Participants will  
study and discuss a bible text and make interpretive  
collages. Materials will be provided. Group is limited  
to 10 participants, ages 18 on up.

"Reinventing Eve", from March 29-May 24th is at the  
Jewish Museum of New Jersey, in Congregation Aha-  
vas Sholom, 145 Broadway, Newark, New Jersey.

All programs free and open to the public and there is  
free off street parking.

For more information go to [www.jewishmuseumnj.org](http://www.jewishmuseumnj.org). To register for any or all programs please see our  
listings on Eventbrite. 

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# Walking Suicide out of the Darkness

**S**uicide is a problem that is under appreciated in this country. Talking about suicide can be uncomfortable, therefore, we don't. Consequently, we tend to be ignorant to how serious a problem it is. Or we attack the victim as weak and dismiss them for lacking the moral moorings necessary to stay the course and fulfill G-d's plan. Usually when people make such narrow-minded proclamations they're speaking for themselves; condemning the victim without the benefit of looking through their eyes, or lives. Trying to understand the 'why' is never part of the equation when the answer is, "It's never acceptable –period." So, we either don't talk about it at all or we banter about throwing platitudes to the wind like Tinker Bell sprinkling pixie dust to mend broken pots. While pixie dust may have repaired a few pots and pans in Neverland, platitudes won't solve the problem we have here.

## **Here are a few facts that should dispel any notion that suicide is not worthy of discussion:**

- *Every year suicide claims more lives than war, murder, and natural disasters combined.*
- *Suicide is the 10th leading cause of death in America.*
- *Suicide is the second leading cause of death among young people between 10 to 24.*
- *Every year 44,000 deaths are suicide related.*
- *For every successful suicide in America there are 25 failed attempts (1.1 million)*
- *America has no federally funded suicide prevention program for adults.*
- *Suicide costs the U.S. \$51 billion annually.*
- *Firearms account for almost 50% of suicides.*

Over the last twenty years, every state has seen a rise in its suicide rate. In some states suicide rates have risen 30 percent. Obviously, arguing the inappropriateness of suicide presents no solution to the problem. It must be talked about and prevention; must be talked about as well.

People kill themselves for a variety of reasons including mental health issues, illness, financial problems, relationship complications, financial difficulties, inescapable depression, substance abuse, and bullying (physical and cyber.) Cyber bullying is particularly problematic. That code-fed multitasking beast is ever lurking in the shadows, ready to intrude on your happiness and trample your peace of mind. A bully on the street or at school can be avoided potentially and once you're free of him (or her) your life returns to some semblance of normalcy; but, the cyber bully follows you around, it attacks relentlessly, at school, in the library, at the store, even in your own bedroom. It's always there invading your privacy, turning classmates into accomplices, and challenging your sense of self-worth.

## ***Can you tell if a person is considering suicide?***

Sometimes the signs are there, if you actually look, other times a person's suicide lands like a haymaker you never saw coming, rocking you to the core. You might think some people are simply suicidal by nature; but, research shows many suicides are conceived and acted upon impulsively. Thus many overtly melancholy people can go throughout life without ever really hurting themselves while the



apparently happy-go-lucky fellow who seemingly has it all, just up and kills himself.

### ***Suicide rates per country***

Interestingly, Eastern Europe and Russia have the highest suicide rates (suicides per capita.) Japan and China also have disturbingly high suicide rates. In many poorer countries the suicide rate is significantly lower than their wealthier counterparts.

America is 27th on the list of countries with the highest suicide rates. There are 15.3 suicides per 100,000 people in America, with men three times more likely to commit suicide than women (23.6 vs 7.2)

For those keeping score, Israel is 125th on the list with 5.4 suicides per 100,000 people. Iraq ranks even lower at 169th with only 3 suicides per 100,000 people.

Frankly I'm a little suspect of their statistics, mainly because I don't know if they consider suicide attacks in their respective numbers.

There are steps we can all take to help someone we feel might be struggling with suicidal thoughts.

For more information on your local overnight walk program contact

ASFP – The American Foundation for Suicide Prevention - <https://afsp.org/>

Out of the Darkness Overnight Walks - <https://www.theovernight.org/>

The 2020 NYC Overnight walk will be held on June 20th.

Next week we'll explore suicide in Judaism. ✨



# You are

cordially invited to

The Eighth Annual  
Sussex Avenue School

## Art Exhibition and Auction

Sunday, February 23, 2020  
1:00-4:00pm

Congregation Ahavas  
Sholom  
145 Broadway  
Newark, NJ 07104





## **Help us Remodel Our Kitchen**

**We need \$ 60,000, to remodel our kitchen properly.**

**April Modlinger, a long time pillar of Ahavas Sholom, got us started with a generous pledge of \$10,000. Others have also pledged;**

**but we need more!**

**With your help the congregation will soon have a kitchen that will serve us all for years to come.**

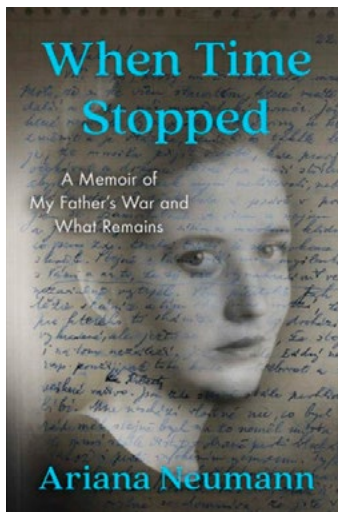
**Please, Make your  
Pledge Today!**

# The Book Shelf

## **When Time Stopped: A Memoir of My Father's War and What Remains**

by Ariana Neumann

Hardcover, Nonfiction, 336,pgs.



In 1941, the first Neumann family member was taken by the Nazis, arrested in German-occupied Czechoslovakia for bathing in a stretch of river forbidden to Jews. He was transported to Auschwitz. Eighteen days later his prisoner number was entered into the morgue book.

Of thirty-four Neumann family members, twenty-five were murdered by the Nazis. One of the survivors was Hans Neumann, who, to escape the German death net, traveled to Berlin and hid in plain sight under the Gestapo's eyes. What Hans experienced was so unspeakable that, when he built an industrial empire in Venezuela, he couldn't bring himself to talk about it. All his daughter Ariana knew was that something terrible had happened.

When Hans died, he left Ariana a small box filled with letters, diary entries, and other memorabilia. Ten years later Ariana finally summoned the courage to have the letters translated, and she began reading. What she discovered launched her on a world-wide search that would deliver indelible portraits of a family loving, finding meaning, and trying to survive amid the worst that can be imagined.

When Time Stopped is an unputdownable detective story and an epic family memoir, spanning nearly ninety years and crossing oceans. Neumann brings each relative to vivid life. In uncovering her father's story after all these years, she discovers nuance and depth to her own history and liberates poignant and thought-provoking truths about the threads of humanity that connect us all.

# Sontag: Her Life and Work

by Benjamin Moser  
*Hard cover, nonfiction, 825pgs.*



No writer is as emblematic of the American twentieth century as Susan Sontag. Mythologized and misunderstood, lauded and loathed, a girl from the suburbs who became a proud symbol of cosmopolitanism, Sontag left a legacy of writing on art and politics, feminism and homosexuality, celebrity and style, medicine and drugs, radicalism and Fascism and Freudianism and Communism and Americanism, that forms an indispensable key to modern culture. She was there when the Cuban Revolution began, and when the Berlin Wall came down; in Vietnam under American bombardment, in wartime Israel, in besieged Sarajevo. She was in New York when artists tried to resist the tug of money—and when many gave in. No writer negotiated as many worlds; no serious writer had as many glamorous lovers. Sontag tells these stories and examines the work upon which her reputation was based. It explores the agonizing insecurity behind the formidable public face: the broken relationships, the struggles with her sexuality, that animated—and undermined—her writing. And it shows her attempts to respond to the cruelties and absurdities of a country that had lost its way, and her conviction that fidelity to high culture was an activism of its own.

Utilizing hundreds of interviews conducted from Maui to Stockholm and from London to Sarajevo—and featuring nearly one hundred images—Sontag is the first book based on the writer's restricted archives, and on access to many people who have never before spoken about Sontag, including Annie Leibovitz. It is a definitive portrait—a great American novel in the form of a biography.

For more information on these or other Jewish themed books, visit the Jewish Book Council at <https://www.jewishbookcouncil.org/>

# Kiddush Sponsorship Shabbat Services

**L**ast week's Kiddush was sponsored by Linda Kaufman, in loving memory of her parents. She was also kind enough to donate to the Synagogue's general fund in memory of Steve Renov's mother. Sponsoring Kiddush is \$150.00, which barely covers the cost of the lunch. Our goal is to have every Kiddush sponsored. To sponsor a Kiddush, email Rabbi Rosenbach or contact Allah Eicheldinger at [alla7815@yahoo.com](mailto:alla7815@yahoo.com). You can also help by shopping; which doesn't cost money, just a little time. We'll give you a list of items, you shop and we'll reimburse you. Whatever you can do will be appreciated, greatly.

**J**oin us at Ahavas Sholom this Saturday for Shabbat services. Strangers, visitors; friends - old & new - our doors are open to you. Looking for a new home? New members are always welcome at Congregation Ahavas Sholom. Shabbat services start at 9:00am. Our congregation is open and welcoming; feel free to pay us a visit, anytime.



*Join us at Congregation  
Ahavas Sholom this  
Shabbat and help us  
make minyon*