Tapestry: Arts & Ideas from the JCC continues to serve as a central hub for building community through the arts in Milwaukee. We are pleased to offer another truly unique online season that can be enjoyed in the comfort and safety of your home – no matter where you choose to spend the winter!

From January to June, this season will give you access to new and innovative programs including performances, author events, films, and classes designed specifically for our community, some with curbside pickup options to enhance your experience. While most programs offer a la carte pricing for tickets, we are excited to again offer a Ticket to Tapestry subscription for this season which will allow you to engage in top-quality arts and ideas programming while also receiving discounted pricing and access to a concierge program registration service.

As a special treat, we are kicking off our season with a series of Tapestry programs concentrating on Broadway. Jews have always been part of Broadway: Jewish composers, writers, producers, have made immeasurable contributions to Broadway Theater, and to the Great American Song Book. Look for the Broadway street sign icon to indicate the three programs in this series: a jazz concert, a film, and the first session of Tapestry U, a new Ideas initiative that features local university and arts professionals in a series of classes about the diversity of Jewish engagement in the arts.

There has never been a better time to weave yourself into our tapestry and bring the best of Jewish arts and culture into your home! We are grateful to all of the donors who make these programs possible and the many class participants who support our programs through their ongoing registration and engagement.

To register for individual classes and programs, click on registration icons in this document or visit jccmilwaukee.org/tapestry. Ticket to Tapestry subscribers enjoy concierge registration assistance.
Tapestry: Arts & Ideas at the JCC is offering a truly unique online season that will continue to provide our community with high-quality programs that explore Jewish history, tradition, arts, and culture and serve as a celebration, exploration, and building of community through the arts.

From January to June, this season will give you access to new and innovative programs in the comfort and safety of your own home including performances, author events, and classes designed specifically for our community, some with curbside pickup options to enhance your experience.

While most programs will include a la carte pricing for tickets, we are excited to present this Ticket to Tapestry subscription which will provide you with an opportunity to engage in top quality arts and ideas programming from the JCC while also receiving free tickets and access to a concierge program registration service.

Your Winter/Spring 2021 Ticket to Tapestry Includes:

- Concierge program registration & advance notice of events
- Free admission to three Signature Performances (value $30 JCC Member / $45 Community)
- Two online movies from Milwaukee Jewish Film (value $24)
- Three books from our literary series (value $45)
- Three Taste & Tradition online cooking classes with key ingredients (value $26 JCC Member / $39 Community)
- Two Judaic Art & Mastery Series of online art classes (value $40 JCC Member / $50 Community)
- Tapestry U 5-part arts education series (value $36 JCC Member / $47 Community)
- 10% discount on one Jody Hirsh Class - Back to the Sources or Art of the Short Story (value varies)

Programs run January – June 2021
JCC Member $180 / Community $220
SIGNATURE PERFORMANCES

Broadway Jazz with The Milwaukee Jazz Institute Quartet

Tuesday, January 26 • 7:30PM

The Milwaukee Jazz Institute Quartet, featuring guitarist Paul Silbergleit, pianist Mark Davis, bassist Jeff Hamann, and drummer Dave Bayles, will perform jazz renditions of songs by the brilliant Jewish American composers who wrote extensively for Broadway musicals. These songs by Jerome Kern, George Gershwin, Richard Rodgers, and others now comprise what is referred to as “The Great American Songbook.”

JCC Member $10 / Community $15

This concert is possible thanks to the caring support of Bruce Weiss & Melinda Steffey.

PLAYHOUSE J

Modeled after live theater broadcasts in the 1950s infancy of Television, Playhouse J is the newest initiative of Tapestry: Arts & Ideas at the JCC. We will be presenting a series of live play readings through the magic of Zoom! All performances will feature well known Milwaukee-based professional talent.

Reunions: a Pandemic Trilogy • Thursday, February 18 • 7:30 PM

This world premiere of an evening of live theater by Jody Hirsh chronicles the Covid-19 pandemic in our own time featuring a trilogy of short plays about Pandemic reunions: A young couple renews their friendship while searching for yeast during the buildup to the Covid lockdown, Elijah the prophet visits a divorcee’s solitary Seder during the lockdown itself, and years after the pandemic, an elderly father reunites with his estranged son. Partially funded by Dr. Steven & Rusti Moffic

JCC Member $10 / Community $15

Look for another Playhouse J production in April.
January 12 • 7:30 PM
Michael Ian Black • *A Better Man*

A poignant look at boyhood, in the form of a heartfelt letter from comedian Michael Ian Black to his teenage son before he leaves for college, and a radical plea for rethinking masculinity and teaching young men to give and receive love.

February 9 • 7:30 PM
Ronald Balson • *Eli’s Promise*

A masterful work of historical fiction spanning three eras—Nazi-occupied Poland, the American Zone of post-war Germany, and Chicago at the height of the Vietnam War. Award-winning author Ronald H. Balson explores the human cost of war, the mixed blessings of survival, and the enduring strength of family bonds.

March 9 • 7:30 PM
Shlomo Levin • *Human Rights Haggadah*

The Passover story touches on every aspect of human rights, from the bitter oppression of slavery to the moral dilemmas that arise when fighting for even a cause as justified as freedom. This Haggadah makes Passover relevant to the most pressing political and religious dilemmas we face today.

April 20 • 7:30 PM
Rachel Biale • *Growing up Below Sea Level: A Kibbutz Childhood*

This beautifully written memoir is composed of linked stories about growing up on a kibbutz in Israel in the 1950s and 60s, when children spent most of their time, from birth on, in a Children's House. The stories focus on the world of children, but also offer a window into the lives of the adult kibbutz members, including Holocaust survivors.

June 8 • 7:30 PM
Jo Ivester • *Once a Girl, Always a Boy: A Family Memoir of a Transgender Journey*

This family memoir shares Jeremy Ivester’s journey from childhood through coming out as transgender and eventually emerging as an advocate for the transgender community. This is not only Jeremy’s story but also that of his family, told from multiple perspectives—those of the siblings who struggled to understand the brother they once saw as a sister, and of the parents who ultimately joined him in the battle against discrimination.
JUDAIC ART & MASTERY SERIES

Judaic Art & Mastery @ Home
Create beautiful artistic pieces from the comfort of your home with the assistance of the JCC art specialist, Andres Hernandez. Participants will be provided with all supplies via curbside pick-up at the JCC.

Glass Mosaics
2 Wednesdays, Jan 6 & 13 • 4:00 PM

Stenciling Ceramic Coasters
2 Wednesdays, Mar 10 & 17 • 4:00 PM

Each two class series: MEM $20/ COMM $25

TASTE & TRADITION
Cooking Series

Taste & Tradition Winter & Spring Cooking Series
Tapestry's popular Taste & Tradition series continues with chefs from popular Milwaukee restaurants offering their take on Jewish and Israeli cooking with recipes incorporating the winter holidays. For each class, participants will receive a key ingredient available for curbside pick-up at the JCC and a list of additional ingredients needed. Expand your culinary repertoire and learn from some of the best chefs in Milwaukee!

WINTER SERIES
January 19 • 5:00 PM Make homemade bagels & cream cheese with Allie Boys Bagelry & Luncheonette
February 17 • 5:00 PM Make Grilled Cheese & Tomato Soup with Soup Market (their Kidshare Classic)
March Make flourless chocolate cake with North Shore Boulangerie.

SPRING SERIES
April 29 • 5:00 PM Third Coast Provisions
May More details coming soon
June More details coming soon

Individual Classes: $10 JCC Members / $15 Community • Three class series: MEM $24 / COMM $39
This special new monthly Tapestry initiative features local university and arts professionals in a series of classes about the diversity of Jewish engagement in the arts.

February 1 • Dr. Rachel Baum  
Deputy Director, Sam & Helen Stahl Center for Jewish Studies, UWM  
How Jews on Broadway Reimagined America  
You know you're enjoying a musical when you can't stop humming the tunes. Broadway musicals can make us laugh and cry, they can make our hearts soar...and they also have allowed Jews and other minorities to explore important issues of race and diversity. In this interactive lecture, Dr. Rachel Baum will look at classic Broadway musicals through today's concerns for inclusion, appropriation, and voice, highlighting that underneath the catchy songs and enthralling dance, Broadway musicals shape the stories we tell about ourselves and each other.

March 1 • Professor Joel Berkowitz  
Director, Sam & Helen Stahl Center for Jewish Studies  
Translating Theater: A Conversation  
In this lively conversation between UWM Professor Joel Berkowitz and JCC Judaic Education Director, Jody Hirsh, we will examine the complexities of translation: How does a translator preserve artistic and cultural gems of Yiddish theater of the past, while keeping it vital and relevant to a modern English-speaking audience?

April 5 • Dr. Amanda Ruppenthal Stein  
Lecturer in Music, Carroll University  
Composers Friedrich Gernsheim and Max Bruch: Friendship and Music in 19th Century Germany  
The Nineteenth Century in Germany was full of astonishing changes for Jews. Ranging from quotas and restrictions imposed in the early years of the century to “Emancipation” and citizenship by the end of the century, Jews gradually assimilated into German life and culture. Dr. Amanda Ruppenthal Stein will guide us through a case study examining the relationship between the assimilated German Jewish composer Friedrich Gernsheim (1839-1916), and his fellow composer and friend Max Bruch (1838-1920), the non-Jewish composer of the famous Kol Nidrei: Adagio on Hebrew Melodies for Violoncello and Orchestra. Dr. Stein will draw on research from the National Library of Israel which was part of her Doctoral Dissertation and shed light on this relationship which shaped the earliest acceptance of so-called Jewish sounds in European concert halls.

May 3 • Professor Gillian Rodger  
Peck School of the Arts, UWM  
Jews in Variety and Vaudeville  
Get to know the Jewish performers, musicians, managers and stars who helped shape popular entertainment of the late-19th and early-20th centuries, and explore the ways in which these entertainment professionals both provided and resisted the conventions for portraying Jewish characters, complicated representation in popular culture, and participated in an entertainment industry that was more open and welcoming than the broader society, but also actively participated in the construction of whiteness and inscribed a cultural and racial hierarchy in this period.

June 7 • Michael Unger  
Artistic Director, Skylight Music Theatre  
Tikkun Olam and the Arts  
Artists are the prophets of our times, so often speaking out against injustice in our pandemic ridden times. How, in fact, can the arts contribute to Tikkun Olam, repairing the world? How in particular has the Milwaukee arts scene, now starved because of the pandemic, struggled with its vitality and relevance in these troubled times. This discussion will include viewing the documentary “Midsummer in Middletown,” the uplifting story of Michael Unger’s production of A Midsummer’s Night Dream with children scarred by the Sandy Hook Shooting in 2012.
On Broadway A Film by Oren Jacoby
Streaming on Eventive January 12-14
Zoom Talkback January 14 with Jody Hirsh, JCC Judaic Educator and Josh Landay, actor, COO of Building for the Arts-New York • 7:30PM

An all-star cast tells the inside story of Broadway theater coming back from the brink thanks to innovative work, inclusion, and an uneasy balance between art and commerce.

Six Minutes to Midnight
Streaming on Eventive February 21-23
Talkback-February 23 • 7:30PM

Six Minutes To Midnight is inspired by the real Augusta Victoria College for Girls which was located on the south coast of England in Bexhill on the Sea that taught German girls throughout the 1930s and only closed at the outbreak of WWII. The school was run on Nazi ideals throughout Hitler’s governance. The school badge featured a Swastika on one side and a Union Jack on the other. The film uses the history of this school as a springboard for a beautifully filmed, superbly acted fictional thriller. Featuring Dame Judi Dench and Eddie Izzard.

All films $12 per household • Visit mkejewishfilm.eventive.org

Look for more films to be announced from Milwaukee Jewish Film
Jews probably came to England during the Norman invasion in 1066, and in spite of periods of persecution and exile, we have a long and rich history there. This 30-week Back to the Sources history class will look at that rich history from the Eleventh Century until today. Our texts will be primary documents that were written during each historical period that we study. Our sources will include Chaucer and Shakespeare, Jewish sources and chronicles, as well as one historical novel: The Conspiracy of Paper, by David Liss.

Bruce Jay Friedman (1930 – 2020) was a trailblazer in the genre of American black humor, and was most famous for his plays, and his screenplays. However, he wrote novels and a whole treasure trove of offbeat short stories. This monthly class will examine a selection of his stories.


JCC Member $60 / Community $75
Support Jewish Arts & Culture

For over a hundred years, the Harry & Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center has served as an inclusive destination for exceptional wellness, education, and community services.

Right now, the JCC is challenged like never before.

We need your help to innovate our service, to respond to this moment in time, to build upon the successes of the past to meet the needs of the present. Consider all the ways the community of the JCC has been there for you over the course of your life.

The Campaign for a Strong JCC serves one goal – to build the resources necessary to continue this important work, to ensure future generations have access to programs and services, and to invite the entire community to invest in our shared future.

However you’ve invested in the past, investments that are deeply appreciated and have played a meaningful role in our community’s growth, we’re asking for an investment in all of the JCC’s service areas. We know that if any community can meet the challenge, it’s this one.

**Today is the day to stand up for a Strong JCC. For Today. For Tomorrow. For Each Other.**

DONATE

To learn more about Tapestry, contact tapestry@jccmilwaukee.org or visit jccmilwaukee.org/tapestry
Through the JCC’s Tapestry: Arts & Ideas, our community is opened to new ideas, varied art forms, and connections to diverse voices. The Tapestry Producers Circle supporters have made an investment in this vision for justice, ensuring high-quality programs and experiences for the entire community. For more information on how you can join this group of devoted supporters, please contact Elyse Cohn at ecohn@jccmilwaukee.org.

Tapestry is a program of the Harry & Rose Samson Family Jewish Community Center.