

## Moishe House August Events

Moishe House Charlotte celebrates its second birthday this August with a host of fun events. Moishe House is a nonprofit organization dedicated to promoting community among Jewish young adults in their twenties and early thirties. It seeks to fill the void that often exists after graduating college and prior to settling down.

The organization, with 76 houses in 17 countries, brings together Jewish adults who live together and plan local programs, both home-based and external, for other young Jewish adults. Moishe House Charlotte began in August 2013 and has hosted over 100 events ranging from service projects to social events to Jewish learning and more. Its current residents are Elana Congress, Audrey Singer, Danielle Soowal, Matt Hirsch, and Tahis Haloulos. We

are looking for another roommate to move in this fall—if you're Jewish, aged 22-30, awesome, and looking to move into the house, e-mail us at [mohocharlotte@gmail.com](mailto:mohocharlotte@gmail.com) for more information.

Read on to see what we're up to for August.

1. Ask the Rabbis - The Boundaries of Jewish Identity - Tuesday August 4 at 7:30 PM at Moishe House

August's "Ask the Rabbis" will be a panel-like discussion in which a few of our terrific Charlotte rabbis briefly gives his/her perspective on the chosen topic - The Boundaries of Jewish Identity. Would someone still be able to call themselves Jewish if they were not born Jewish? Do they need the community's approval, or can they just identify as Jewish as they see themselves? Following

their presentations, we will open the floor for discussion and questions.

2. Alive After Five - Thursday, August 13 at 6:30 PM at the Epicenter, 210 E. Trade Street

Because we had so much fun meeting up for Alive After Five in June, we want to do it again during the last month of its summer series. We will meet on the rooftop in between the main stage and the bar area. We can't wait to see you all there.

3. Diana's Housewarming Party - Saturday, August 15 at 6:30 PM at Diana's House

Missing Diana? So are we ... so let's go see her new place. Wear your swimsuit and we can enjoy a relaxing Saturday night by the pool ending with havdalah. Housewarming gifts in the form of adult beverages are greatly appreciated.

Email [mohocharlotte@gmail.com](mailto:mohocharlotte@gmail.com) for address.

4. Mint Museum Uptown Tour - Wednesday, August 19 at 7 PM at Mint Museum Uptown, 500 South Tryon St., Charlotte

An internationally-renowned institution, The Mint Museum is dedicated to inspiring, publishing, and protecting important works of art and design from all over the global art community. Mint Museum Uptown houses outstanding collections of American, contemporary, and European art. Each Wednesday evening, admission to the museum is free, so join the Moishe House for a tour. Make sure to meet us at the entrance to the museum at 7 PM sharp.

5. Peculiar Rabbit 2nd Anniversary - Thursday, August 27 from 7-9 PM

Did you hear? Moishe House Charlotte is celebrating its second anniversary.

Join us at the Peculiar Rabbit, the locale where the founding MoHo CLT members met for the first time. The Peculiar Rabbit is located in Plaza-Midwood, with a great rooftop bar ideal for enjoying apps and drinks, with views of the Charlotte skyline.

To learn more about Moishe House Charlotte, visit our website ([www.moishehouse.org/houses/charlotte](http://www.moishehouse.org/houses/charlotte)), like us on Facebook ([www.facebook.com/MoisheHouseCharlotte](http://www.facebook.com/MoisheHouseCharlotte)) or e-mail us at [mohocharlotte@gmail.com](mailto:mohocharlotte@gmail.com). We look forward to seeing you soon. ✨



## Lisa Jenkins – Saving Stones in Israel and Belmont

By Melinda Skutnick

As Gastonia Temple Emanuel member Lisa Jenkins embarked upon a five-month conservation practicum in Israel two years ago, she had little idea that her learned skills would find a practical purpose in downtown Belmont.

Chosen to study in the "Saving the Stones" program funded by the International Conservation Center, UNESCO, and The Israel Antiquities Authority, Jenkins – a Belmont, NC, resident – joined a team of preservationists from inter-disciplinary backgrounds in Akko (old Acre), Israel. The program teaches preservation and conservation techniques, giving students valuable hands-on experience working on the preservation of antiquities across Israel.

It was this applied training that led Jenkins to a recent restoration project in Belmont – recapturing the deep olives, gold tones, and fine stencil work of the faded and aging 1920s Wells Fargo bank

ceiling on Main Street.

"Just like I was taught, I tried to go about the project at Wells Fargo with as much information and research as possible in order to replicate what the original artist did," said Jenkins, noting one of the most important lessons she gained from her mentor, Shay Farkash, the top conservator of decorative paintings in Israel. "When you see a restoration project, you have to approach it with integrity, meaning following as much as possible the same steps as the artist did."

In Akko, Jenkins and her fellow program participants worked toward the preservation of ruins throughout the recognized world heritage site. Among international students from varying disciplines, Jenkins said she studied the conservation of wall paintings, specifically helping restore a decorative fresco in a Syrian synagogue in Jerusalem, which was painted over with beige paint long ago.

"Throughout Akko, you could see your presence there was needed," she noted, "to help keep both the Arab and Israeli cultures alive for future generations."

The need to preserve the old city, however, was not all Jenkins noticed. She also witnessed the region's internal struggles. "Right in front of you, first-hand, was the Israeli-Arab conflict."

That conflict was discovered in tales of Akko as well as art. In an effort to revitalize the old city, doors were repainted turquoise – a perfect metaphor to what the city is, the blend of traditional Arab (green) and Jewish (blue). Turquoise symbolizes the two cultures living together in this city on the sea.

Jenkins returned to Belmont with stories of history, antiquities and traditions in addition to her newly-learned preservation techniques. In May 2015, she used her Israel-gained knowledge to tackle the Wells Fargo bank project, recapturing the grand entrance's original beauty.

Restoration of the 1920s decorative ceiling extended through late July; Jenkins was only able to work during non-bank hours. However, this local decorative painter and color stylist looks forward to utilizing her skills gained along the Mediterranean Sea for

more projects.

Added Jenkins, who has 15 years of experience working in the paint and color industry, "I knew I wanted to do something more than be just a tourist in Israel and this program was the exact right fit."

To contact Jenkins for color consulting or painting, email her at [lisajenkinscolor@gmail.com](mailto:lisajenkinscolor@gmail.com). ✨



Clockwise from top left: Wells Fargo ceiling; Jenkins painting in the Well Fargo building; Jenkins studying in Israel; a Syrian synagogue resotration.

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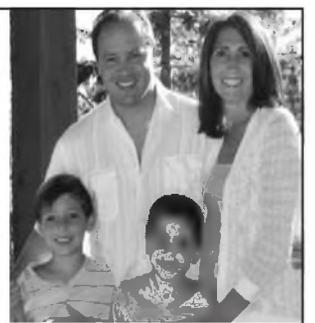
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