

Third Annual Film Festival, Coming to You This Spring

The third annual Charlotte Jewish Film Festival promises more movies, more venues, and more fun. Mark your calendar now: April 14-22, 2007.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to view Jewish films from all over the world. We will be featuring award-winning movies including *Live and Become* – the magnificent, epic story of an Ethiopian boy who is airlifted from a Sudanese refugee camp to Israel in 1984 during Operation Moses.

We are also excited to announce the creation of our new logo and the upcoming launch of our website: www.charlottejewishfilm.com, where you will find the complete schedule of events and be able to purchase tickets online. The site will be available in January — bookmark it and visit often.

We are currently seeking volunteers. If you are interested in assisting with PR, volunteer coordination, marketing, fundraising or film acquisition, please join us at our upcoming committee meetings January 8 and February 12 at 7 PM in the boardroom at the Levine JCC. Volunteers are also needed during the festival for ticket collection and ushering.

We encourage you or your company to join in the growth of the film festival by becoming a sponsor. A variety of sponsorship levels are available, and a committee member would be happy to discuss these opportunities with you.



For more information, please contact Jodi at info@charlottejewishfilm.com.

The Charlotte Jewish Film Festival was created in 2005 by the Charlotte chapter of Hadassah in conjunction with the Light Factory, and has since formed additional community partnerships with the Levine JCC, the Jewish Federation of Greater Charlotte and Temple Beth El.

This project was made possible, in part, through a Community Cultural Connections grant from the Arts and Science Council and the Grassroots Program of the North Carolina Arts Council (a state agency). ☆

The Levine JCC is in Search of Creative Teens

Are you a creative person entering grades 8-12 and will be 13 by the summer of 2007? JCC Maccabi Artsfest is designed to inspire Jewish teens through a dynamic combination of workshop, performance, exhibition, recognition of excellence, community service, social activities, and fun. Teens develop their individuality through the medium of artistic expression while strengthening their bonds to their Jewish heritage, community and Israel.

What happened in 2006? The participants performed beyond their wildest expectations. Some wrote songs they never knew they had in them. Some fronted a band, a prospect that seemed terrifying before discovering the confidence. Others created original monologues and dances, their abilities nurtured by working artists in various fields.

Excitement reigns during the week of JCC Maccabi ArtsFest. Young artists generally arrive at the host communities on Sunday. Teens traveling from JCC sister cities in Israel or other delegations may arrive before Shabbat. Host families greet teens when they arrive, and the teens have a chance to meet with their artists-in-residence prior to the opening event. They spend the majority of each day in master classes, preparing for the closing event. In the evening, teens relax at a host family night, enjoy beach parties in both 2007 communities, and look forward to special activities. They spend most of Thursday preparing exhibits and performances for the gala finale. Formal appreciation of excellence is part of each art

specialty.

Each artist-in-residence establishes requirements for participation, which range from a strong interest in a particular art specialty to proven ability through the submission of audio/and or video tapes. Once the delegation head confirms that a teen is eligible to participate, registration is completed online.



JCC delegations travel to ArtsFest with adult staff members or lay leaders from their community. There is a 1:10 ratio of teens to adult delegation heads and chaperones. Adults take great care to make sure that teens enjoy a safe time while they are away from home.

The JCC Maccabi Games® have grown to the point where close to 6,000 teens from many different countries participate each summer. This new youth development initiative is designed to attract those teens who have a strong interest in the arts. JCC Maccabi ArtsFest connects thousands of Jewish teens with similar interests to each other, the arts, and their local Jewish Community Centers.

Join this year's delegation, August 12-17, 2007 in Deal Park, NJ, at the JCC of Greater Monmouth County. Call the Levine JCC at 704 366-5007 and speak with Aree Pearlman to find out more.

Art Specialities: Art – Multimedia; classical ensembles/orchestra; computer graphics; creative writing; dance; jazz ensembles; radio broadcasting; rock/pop bands; theatre – acting or musical; and vocal music. ☆

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The Hebrew Cemetery Association

By Lorrie Klemons, Publicity Chair

Secular New Year brings with it a time for resolution and reflection. Audrey Hepburn wrote a poem when she was asked to share her "beauty tips" with the American woman. That same reflective poem was read at her funeral several years later. Ms. Hepburn has been gone for many years now but her words are timeless and consistent with our basic core of Jewish values.

For attractive lips, speak words of kindness.

For lovely eyes, seek out the good in people.

For a slim figure, share your food with the hungry.

For beautiful hair, let a child run his/her fingers through it once a day.

For poise, walk with the knowledge that you never walk alone. People, even more than things, have to be restored, renewed, revived, reclaimed, and redeemed; never throw out anyone.

Remember, if you ever need a helping hand, you will find one at the end of each of your arms. As you grow older, you will discover that you have two hands; one for helping yourself, and the other for helping others.

Make your 2007 New Year resolution today. Reach out with two wide open arms and join the Hebrew Cemetery Association. By doing so, one hand will help all those who preceded you in eternal life, while the other will connect you to members of your community who can offer you strength and support when you need it most. Your annual dues of \$72 will help support the on-going beautification of the cemetery and maintain the sanctity and dignity of a holy burial ground administered and controlled by the Jewish community of Charlotte.

For more information about membership benefits, graves, interfaith or cremation areas, pre-paid funeral costs, or endowment donations, call Cemetery Director Joe Kodsi at 704-364-4112 or 704-576-1859. Visit the website of the Hebrew Cemetery Association of Charlotte at www.hebrewcemetery.org.

Directions to the cemetery: Providence Rd. North into the uptown area; right onto Graham St.; bear left onto Statesville Rd.; the cemetery is down about one mile on the left.

If you know of any veterans buried at the cemetery, kindly inform Joe Kodsi. ☆