

NEWSLETTER

NOVEMBER 2005

2005 HIGH HOLIDAYS: THE HIT OF THE SEASON!

We're pleased to report, with the High Holiday season now officially behind us, that we were a resounding success.

That's the royal *we* – as in, all of us.

Rabbi Eliza Kukla proved to be quite a calling card. Attendance was very strong at all the services; the level of participation and quality of the work done was exemplary.

In addition to Eliza, and all those involved in organizing this year's services, a big thank you goes out as well to all the singers, readers and participants who gave of themselves, their time and their talent to build on what is truly one of our greatest strengths as a community – our creativity.



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So... you survived Rosh Hashana. You repented on Yom Kippur. You decorated a sukkah, or at least attended the DJC's annual sukkot festival. And you managed to convince the children that Simchat Torah was about more than paper flags and apples.

Now you're asking: How do you follow an act like that?

The answer? Keep reading. The high holidays are the beginning of the Jewish year. That means there's lots more in store – whatever your thing is.

A reader? A not-so-frustrated performer? Or just someone who likes to shmooze with others at a relaxing Friday night service in someone's home? Well, you're in luck.

283 DANFORTH AVENUE
TORONTO, ONTARIO
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TEL: (416) 825-7431
info@djctoronto.com



The
Danforth
Jewish Circle
★Coffeehouse★

Come experience the talents of the DJC Community!

Short performances by members
of the DJC Community

Saturday November 19th at the Victory Café
581 Markham Street (one block South & one West of Bathurst and Bloor)

8 to 10 pm (doors open at 7:30)

\$10 admission, food and drinks for sale
(Any profits will be donated to charity)

How to participate:

Do you sing, dance, write/read poetry, short stories or plays, play an instrument, do magic tricks or anything else that would suit a coffeehouse format? Let us know!

*We are looking for five to fifteen minute performances.
The venue offers a small space with sound and light systems.*

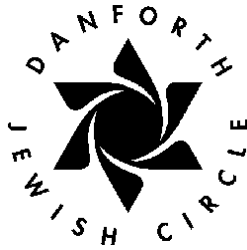
The planning committee will receive requests and develop a program incorporating as many performance submissions as possible. In the event we are inundated, we will have to, regrettably, be selective. We will reply to you by the end of October with our program and selected performers. If we get a great response, we may plan a follow-up event. Please understand that choices will be based upon how many responses we get and what makes up a reasonable two-hour program. Thanks in advance for your interest.

In your submission please include your name, contact information (email, phone, address), whether or not you are a DJC member and a brief description of your proposed performance piece, including length (from five to fifteen minutes).

Please submit your information by October 31 to:
Danforth Jewish Circle 283 Danforth #125 M4K 1N2
or to info@djctoronto.com

Thanks! This is a very exciting first time event for our community!

Editor's note: A very worthwhile event – and one that promises fun for all. Note that the deadline has been extended. Act soon!



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Shabbat shalom!

We are beginning this season's warm, welcoming Friday evening, in-home Shabbat services. All are welcome, adults and children. If you are a newcomer to our community, this is a good way to meet DJC members. Finger food contributions are welcome as we nosh and socialize after the service.

Where: At the home of Marlee and David Wyman
1 Victor Avenue
When: Friday, November 4
RSVP: 416 466-6293



If you would like to volunteer your home for a Friday evening service, contact Diana Chastain at dianach@allstream.net or 416 465-0635.

School days

The DJC's Hebrew education program has officially begun. That's the good news. Now – the not-so-good news. We are sad to announce that Debbie Plested will be leaving the DJC children's Jewish studies program as our registrar/treasurer in the next couple of months.

Although she'll be a hard act to follow, we are looking for someone who is up to the challenge. If you are interested in fulfilling this challenging position, please contact us as soon as possible at eyew@rogers.com.

A detailed job description is also available on the DJC web site at www.djctoronto.com.

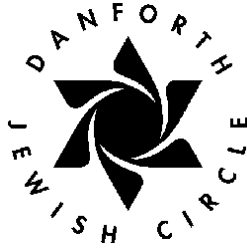
From all of us, a big thank you to Debbie, who has given so much to build the program into the success that it's become. She'll be missed, but will undoubtedly bring energy and enthusiasm to the tasks that await. Good luck, Debbie.

Salve for your soul...

An Insight Meditation Workshop is being organized to take place in the near future. The workshop will be given by Molly Swan, who has been teaching meditation full time for over 8 years. Workshop will include guided practice, talks, Q&A and practical application into daily life. Interested? E-mail Jacob (jbali@rogers.com).

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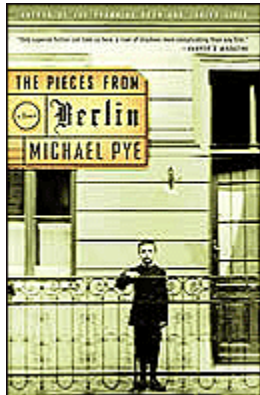
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...and vitamins for your brain

Never let it be said that the DJC isn't nourishing all the parts of you. The book club's season is now in full swing. Bookie Karen Robbins reports:

“On October 20, more than 30 DJC members were crowded but cozy in the living room of DJC member Anne Amitay. We were there to hear Elaine Newton, our guest speaker, discuss our first book club selection of the year – Philip Roth's, *The Plot Against America*. Elaine is a great fan of Roth and has been lecturing on his novels for close to four decades. We were treated to some literary context as far back as 'Portnoy complaining' and as far forward as his most recent trilogy (*American Pastoral*, *I Married A Communist* and *The Human Stain*) – all recommended reading. Elaine shared that Philip Roth is considered the body; Saul Bellow the mind; and Bernard Malamud the heart of North American Jewish fiction. It was a fascinating start to her examination of both the author and this novel. Judging by the smiles and general kvelling, it seems that many enjoyed this thought-provoking evening including the lovely spread put out by our hostess. For those who have not read the book, the consensus was two literary thumbs up.”



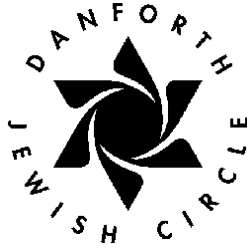
Next up is *Pieces From Berlin*, by Michael Pye. On Thursday, November 24, facilitator Arliene Botnick will explore this intensely moving novel, which delves into the concept of restitution, both of objects stolen from families who lived through the Holocaust, and of justice and truth.

Arliene Botnick has been Director of Education at Solel Synagogue in Mississauga for the past 18 years. Among other community roles, she is a member of the Family Education Network of the Board of Jewish Education, and the Reform Educators' Council. Arliene comes highly recommended as a book presenter and facilitator.

To get on the mailing list about future dates, or find out more details about this one, please send an e-mail to info@djctoronto.com. You'll be glad you did.

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OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS		
Eliza's next visit	Weekend of Nov. 25	More details to come
Hebrew crash course	November 6	Watch your inbox for more information, or contact info@djctoronto.com
Jewvention: the futures of Jewish Culture	Oct. 28-31	www.rejewvention2005.com
Annual Holocaust Education Week Community commemoration to mark the 67 th anniversary of Kristallnacht	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oct. 27-Nov 9 • Nov. 9 	Adath Israel Congregation 37 Southbourne Avenue Phone (416) 635-2883 ext. 301 or (416) 635-0925 msiklos@ujafed.org www.jewishtoronto.net

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