CENTER SNAPSHOTS

ONE COMMUNITY. ONE CENTER.



VOLUME 2, ISSUI

EC CARNIVAL KICKS OFF SUMMER '24!



SUMMER EVENTS

Summer will be HOT with plenty of events down at the shore.

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ANNUAL MEETING

A special night honoring our dedicated staff and volunteers.

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SAYING GOOD-BYE

A message from our President. Page 7 enterCoin

COMMUNITY SAVINGS PASS





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New stores added monthly! Full terms at SCCLive.org/CenterCoin Available for Center members only. Must present CenterCoin card at time of purchase.



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Center Snapshots designed and produced by Mary Halabani, Janice Mizrahi, and Greta Schwartz

Save the Gates SUMMER



EC CARNIVAL Mon, June 24, 4 PM

Rides, Games, and more!

At the home of Betty & Joe Sitt 71 Ocean Avenue, Deal

GRANDMA'S KITCHEN Wed, July 24



Featuring a live demo by **Ruhama's Food!** Deal, NJ



RUTH JEROME A"H 5TH ANNUAL GARDEN & POOL TOUR Tues, July 30, 12 noon

Led by Abe Jerome Touring some of the most magnificent gardens at the Shore. Tix: \$72 • Purchase tix at: SCCLive.org/GardenTour



STOOP TALKS Fri, July19 & Fri, August 9, 4 PM

Engaging panel discussions geared for our Young Adults.

EVENTS

ENCORE SUMMER SHOW Mon, August 19 & Tues, August 20



Prepare to be wowed by our community's most talented performers!



FUN IN THE SUN Tues, August 20

In loving memory of Linda and Jack Tamir

The day for our Seniors, filled with stimulating programs, live music, and a dip in an outdoor pool with unbeatable ocean views.

CENTER COURT Sun, August 25

Our community's best players team up with the pros for the most competitive play of the summer! At the home of Ester & Joey Jerome 1055 Ocean Ave



STAY IN THE LOOP FOLLOW US FOR DETAILS





Events

FALL 2024 PROGRAM

IMPORTANT DATES TO KNOW





THU & FRI AUG. 22 & 23

MON & TUE AUG. 26 & 27





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The Alice & Harry Adjmi ANNUAL MEETING

The Annual Meeting was a beautiful night where we recognized board members, community members, employees, and key individuals who have loved, supported, and led the Center through its many years of success. We're proud to celebrate the commitment and excellence within our community!

While we're sad to say good-bye to **Ricky Novick** as Center President, our future could not be brighter with new President **Louis Jerome** at the helm! We look forward to his leadership.

Congratulations to our esteemed honorees:



Joy Cabasso Early Childhood Award presented to Miriam Tawil



Gitta Sultan Leadership Award presented to Limor Madeb



Morris Bailey Leadership Award presented to Morris Terzi



Fairway for Fundraising Success Award presented to Morris I. Bailey



Staff Ace Award presented to Richie Simon



Lea Levy Award for Professional Excellence presented to David Jolovitz



<u>Staff Recognition Awards</u> Nechama Klein (5 years), Alisa Daniel Ziff (25 years), Arlene Salomon (30 years), Linda Chachou-Alkatri (5 years), Isaac Mizrahi (5 years, not pictured), and Liat Salame (5 years)



The Center's next Presiden Louis Jerome



Lifetime Achievement Award for Dedication and Commitment to the Center presented to Albert Tobias

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MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

To our Center Family

Three years ago I was given one of the greatest gifts I could have asked for, the opportunity to preside over and focus on an institution that is the CENTER of our community. How brilliant were our founders who recognized that as our community would grow, the Sephardic Community Center would serve as the universal unifier?

At our Center, thousands of young and old community members continue to pour into our building and refer to our Center as their second home. We are bursting at the seams as our programs are at full capacity and our membership numbers are at a record high. There are months throughout the year when our Center is open 7 days a week, and thousands of kids, young adults, adults, and senior adults are all enjoying our facilities at the same time!

HOW BRILLIANT WERE OUR FOUNDERS WHO RECOGNIZED THAT AS OUR COMMUNITY WOULD GROW, THE SEPHARDIC COMMUNITY CENTER WOULD SERVE AS THE UNIVERSAL UNIFIER?

The key to our success is the dedication of our professional staff and lay leadership volunteers. The partnership and respect each group have for one another is why our Center is so successful. We have the best staff who do not look at their work as a job, but rather as part of their life's mission, which is to foster the Center as a hub for educational, cultural, and physical activities. They are so dedicated; the Center has become an integral part of their life. The emails, text messages, and calls start at the break of dawn and continue into the late hours. The same is true for lay leadership. It's a deep sense of love and commitment to our Center that drives our Board to meet and work until all hours for our Center.

At this time, I am very excited to announce the appointment of our new President, Mr. Louis Jerome. Louis together with his wife Raquel place the utmost importance on family and community life. Louis is a passionate leader and loves the Center. The Center is part of Louis's DNA. With his networks and relationships, he is committed to bringing our cultural programs to the next level.

Before I hand over the baton I would like to thank my wife Rachel, who encouraged me from day one of my involvement on the Center Board to go all in at 110%. We accomplished this together.

To my children – Bin, Ronny, Freida, Solomon, and Elliot: thank you for welcoming the Center into our home, our daily lives, for sharing my time with her, for supporting my passion to work for the institution you know that Mom and I love.

To our community, thank you for entrusting your family in your second home.

With much humility and appreciation,

Reely Norch

Ricky Novick



SPECIAL EVENTS

Temmi Laifer, Director of Special Events

A Busy Spring Full of Events

At the Break of Dawn drew nearly 200 attendees in February for an unforgettable evening with brothers Daniel and Neriya Sharabi, survivors of the Nova Festival, moderated by Daniel Mael. Raquel Linando's beautiful rendition of Hatikvah set the tone for an inspirational discussion on the brothers' journey and their initiatives in support, rescue, and rehabilitation.





In March, our lobby transformed into an enchanted Purim marketplace, offering creative Mishloach Manot vendors and exciting pop-up shops on the 2nd floor featuring upcoming spring merchandise.

Also, in March, *Judith Horowitz* shared her expertise on decluttering, offering practical tips and creative ideas during our **Declutter Your Home** event. Attendees left inspired to embark on their decluttering journey after her insightful presentation. We can't wait to have her back!





Then, on Tuesday, May 7th, we hosted the **Mother's Day Boutique Show**, featuring a wide array of unique gift ideas including designer apparel, gourmet foods, home décor, beauty products, and more!



THE AUDREY LEVY ATH SUPPER TUP SUPPER TUP SUPPER TUP SUPPER TUP SUPPER TUP THE AUDREY LEVY ATH SUPPER TUP SUPPER TUP



On Tuesday, May 7th, we had over 2,700 participants in our building celebrating the return of the 2nd Annual Audrey Levy A"H Super Women's Day, an amazing event that featured informative lectures, parenting workshops, local community vendors, and of course, our top-tier group exercise classes.

The day began with a jam-packed morning of Group X classes featuring our talented instructors. That was followed by a special yoga class, "Mom-aste," led by *Sari Sitt*, and then a parenting class with *Norma Gindi*. In the afternoon, attendees enjoyed "The Glitz, the Glamour, the Glitches, and the Reality," a behind-the-scenes discussion with *Norma Cohen*, moderated by *Marlene Tawil*. This beautiful day also featured gourmet treats, the Mother's Day Boutique Show, Mother's Day flowers, and the unveiling of the community's first complete women's Siddur, *J*TH.

We would like to extend a big and heartfelt thank you to the family of Audrey Levy A"H, Isaac Levy Maurice & Claudette Levy Joey & Jenny Levy Daniel & Annette Levy Esther & Richie Hedaya







If you would like to honor someone special in your life with a Center program, we're here to partner with you. Please reach out to info@scclive.org and we'll connect you with the right staff person to bring your idea to life.



STANLEY A"H & COOKIE CHERA EARLY CHILDHOOD

Inbal Khabieh, Director of Education & Admissions

Lisette Lalo, Director of Student Services & Program Operations

Estefania Rodas, Administrative Assistant

We hosted our Annual Father-Child Breakfast, welcoming over 400 attendees

for a morning of prayer, breakfast, and a thrilling raffle. Community helpers were explored with visits from *Officer Mike Fhima* and *Dr. Mal Azar*, who shared insights on safety and oral health, respectively. Singer *Raquel Laniado* and songwriter *Marlene Bibi* delighted children with their song "Hooray for Rain."



Grandparents Day brought over 450 grandparents to our building, while Crazy Hat Day marked the start of Chodesh Adar. Purim festivities included the Annual SCC Carnival and Shushan Purim costume day, where kids enjoyed creating personal haggadahs, seder plates, and more. The highlight was a visit from the Matzah Bakery, allowing kids to make their own matzah.









Partner N' Paint, our Spring Art Workshop, was a hit with over 200 Mommies, Aunts, and Grandmas joining our students for a creative day.

















BAILEY, JEROME, HOROVITS FAMLIES YOUTH & FAMILY

Lillian Ebani, Managing Director of Youth & Family Services Harry Chazanoff, Director of Youth Services Lauren Sakkal, Youth Program Supervisor

We had an action-packed season of programs including Ballers,

RedZone, Triple Threat, Purposeful Play, G League, All in One, Trip Clubs, and Friday programs at The Center, MDY, and Flatbush. On top of all that, we had jam-packed holiday programs for President's Day and Passover!

Friday programs ended with an amazing dance recital, while Sunday programs ended with a variety of fun activities including magic science shows, go-karts, and visits from ice cream trucks.





























The 2nd-8th Grade Ballers season concluded with a thrilling championship game on Sunday, April 14th. The gyms were filled with electric excitement, and we're proud of the tremendous effort and skill displayed by all players. Heartfelt thanks to the coaches for their dedication. Congratulations to the championship teams!



2nd Grade: Warriors



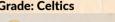


3rd Grade: Bulls

6th Grade: Celtics



5th Grade Girls: Knicks





5th Grade: Grizzlies

6th Grade Girls: Heat



7th & 8th Grade Girls: Wolves

4th Grade: Hornets



7th Grade: Heat



8th Grade: Bucks





In Red Zone Football, 1st-3rd Grade had their Super Bowl, filling Soccer Roof with sell-out crowds. We want to thank Eddie Krivka, Freddy Chazanoff, Jack Keda, & Remy Zohni, our Red Zone supervisors, & to all the coaches for making the football season a huge success! Congratulations to the winning teams!









Saturday Night Lights brought over 150 preteens each week for bumper cars, roller skating, and more, along with a make-up class with *Marinette Hazan* for preteen girls. We wrapped up with a spine-chillinghaunted house.















A Look Back... PURIM CARNIVA

Our Annual Purim Carnival drew in over 800 kids, followed by a special carnival for Imagine Academy students.

















JEFF & RACHEL SUTTON SPORTS & LEAGUES

David Jolovitz, Director of Health & Wellness Harry Chazanoff, Director of Youth Leagues Richie Simon, Director of Men's Leagues

With over 350 members playing nightly, they're all striving to make their run to a championship!

We're thrilled to announce the start of a new college league on Sunday nights called S.N.L, which is being run by *Joe Faham*! The boys are excited to be playing here at the Center and are showcasing their skills on the court.





HEALTH & WELLNESS

David Jolovitz, Director of Health & Wellness

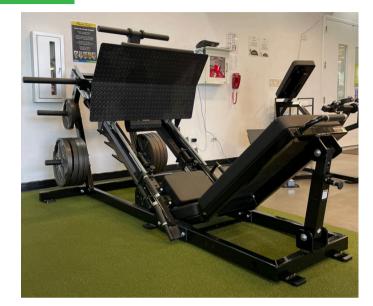
Gaby Shimoonov, Asst Director of Health & Wellness

Carol Dery, Director of Group X Constantine Voytenko, Director of Aquatics

CENTER STRONG

May was a big month for Center Strong. The most exciting piece of news is the upgrade our Fitness Center received! We got new state-of-the-art strength equipment from industry leading brand – Arsenal Strength®. This upgrade features an impressive line-up of upper and lower body strength equipment, such as a leg press, incline chest press, T-bar row, Pec dec/rear delt fly, incline barbell press, and lower back extension. And we're not quite done yet, later this summer we will be receiving a seated shoulder press. This upgrade comes at a great time as our members have really been pushing their limits and reaching new heights. To sum it up, Center Strong has just upgraded its *Arsenal*.

If you've been wanting to start your fitness journey or get back on track with your training program, there is no better time than right now. Come in and find one of our personal trainers, they'll be more than happy to help. They'll get you familiar with the equipment and the basics of exercise. And if you feel that you need more direction and assistance, we offer private personal training at affordable pricing.









GROUP

Our Pilates Studio was given a makeover in the form of four brand new pilates reformers. We can now offer pilates instruction for groups of three and four. For more information about our Group X program or pilates instruction, please contact Carol Dery: Carol@SCCLive.org.

Group X is operating at full steam, serving over 400 women daily with 60+ weekly classes covering various formats. Special pop-ups, featuring fitness celebrities like Or Artzi, Bergen Wheeler, Angel Aulet, and Alexis Sweeney, have been a hit. With a commitment to Israel, Group X also initiated a fundraiser supporting relief efforts. Over 100 girls attended fundraising classes featuring cardio dance, toning, and more.

O @SCCExercise





The highlight of the season was undoubtedly our **Annual Boris Raykhman A"H Annual Bench Press Contest** held on April 1st with competitors showcasing their impressive strength.

Isaac Taub emerging as the overall champion, lifting an impressive 280 lbs.

Chaim Dayan secured the second spot with a powerful 340 lbs lift

Benny Levy claimed third place with a clean 285 lbs.







The contest was filled with memorable moments, including **Ray Fatiha's** hardfought lift, earning him a well-deserved applause. As we reflect on this successful event, we look forward to continuing our commitment to strength and fitness.

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT SCC Dance Company!

Coach Natalie Terzi led our 6th, 7th, and 8th grade girls from the SCC Dance Company to DECAdance, a nationally recognized competition, where they earned gold medals and numerous accolades. Special honors included:

- All SCC Dance Company routines placed in the top 10.
- Two routines won "first place overall" in their respective categories.
- One routine received a Special Judges' Award out of 150 entries.

With future contests on the horizon, the girls aim to add more awards to the trophy case. Stay tuned!





@CenterStrong

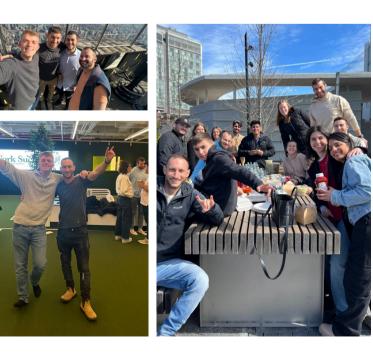
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YOUNG ADULTS



Our Israel initiative "From Israel to NYC" brought 15 Israelis who experienced trauma from October 7th to NYC for a week-long respite. We kicked off the week with a warm community dinner at the Center, featuring Rabbi Ricky Cohen's inspiring words. Activities included a basketball game at Madison Square Garden, a visit to the Empire State Building, a party at Mercer Labs, and a helicopter ride followed by an afternoon in SoHo. Shabbat at Edmond J. Safra Synagogue was particularly moving, with heartfelt speeches and shared stories. The week was filled with laughter, singing, and moments of vulnerability, creating a powerful, supportive atmosphere. Participants like Menajem Mendel, Yaakov Rabinowitz, Yaniv Fried, and Matanya Weiss expressed their gratitude and the profound impact of the trip. This initiative provided much-needed relief and connection, transforming both the participants' lives and our community. Special thanks to our sponsors and donors for making this trip possible.









We also had 160 young adults join us, in collaboration with Enough is Enough, for an exclusive tour of the Nova exhibition: The Moment Music Stood Still. We heard testimonies from survivors at the Nova exhibition as they relayed first-hand accounts of the October 7 massacre.







STAY TUNED FOR OUR UPCOMING Thanksgiving TRIP!



Julie Sherr, Director of Women's Culture Club

WOMEN'S CULTURE CLUB





This spring, Culture Club enjoyed a variety of enriching activities.

Our Book Club discussions included "The Secret Book of Flora Lea," "The Women" with *Raquel Franco*, plus "The Covenant of Water" and "Amazing Grace Adams," moderated by *Alice Chera*. Each session offered diverse insights and lively conversation.











On March 5th, we hosted the **Centerflix Jewish Film Festival**, screening "Four Hours a Day" and "Silhouette of the Braids," followed by a discussion with **Gem Suslovich**. Our Broadway outings included "The Notebook," attended by 40 enthusiastic women, "Days of Wine and Roses", and "Prayer for the French Republic."



We also had a delightful Art Salon hosted by Gem, where members created and shared their art. Our trip to Chinatown, guided by **Ronnit Vasserman**, included exploring fascinating art galleries, despite the weather. Each event was a wonderful opportunity to connect and celebrate our shared interests.







We were so honored to host author, podcaster, and superwoman **Zibby Owens** for our Author's Event! Thank you **Corie Adjmi** for facilitating; what a delight it was to have both of you.







HADDDAD BRANDS FAMILY ARTS & CULTURE

Our **Beauty and the Beast** production had two sold-out performances, over 50 talented kids, more than 100 beautifully crafted costumes, and thousands of hours dedicated to singing, dancing, acting, and excitement. Our biggest thank-yous go to **Sonja Cabasso, Natalie Terzi,** and **Amanda Saul** for their dedicated work with these performers, providing them with unforgettable experiences.











Kathy Shabot, Director of Arts & Culture Sam Torjman, Director of Musical Arts









The premiere of our **Centerflix Jewish Film Festival** was a resounding success! The festival showcased Jewish and Israeli films, highlighting various aspects of our history and culture and the lessons we can draw from them today. These films sparked deep reflection, moments of humor, and intense drama. We look forward to the return of Centerflix this fall. Thank you to *Gem Suslovich, Miriam Barry, Ora Delbery, Esther Jaffe, Michelle Maleh, Sam Torjman*, and *Enough is Enough* for joining us for special programs around some of the films.



Mannanas





















Living the March was an important and emotional event where we experienced a VR exploration of Auschwitz, joined by Holocaust survivor **Toby Levy**.



ROBERT & ALICE HEDAYA



On the Saturday evening following October 7, the Center hosted a remarkable **Night of Unity**.

The powerful emotions from that night resonated deeply, and in the days that followed, the first group boarded a plane, inspiring us all to be partners in solidarity and show our love and support.



On May 13, we celebrated a very special and emotional **Yom Ha'atzmaut** program generously sponsored by **Z & Marav Dweck**. Over 400 attendees joined us to support and honor the many chesed missions from our community, showing their strength and solidarity with our brothers in our homeland.

Our community has shown immense support toward Israel, making it fitting that our honorees were participants of the many solidarity trips, as well as the rabbis who led and joined them. Through captivating videos, we paid tribute to participants from these trips and the rabbis who paved the way forward for our community members.





COMMUNITY SERVICES

Aimee Mishaan, Co-director of Senior Center







Earlier in the season, Ladies Night Out featured pizza, a salad bar, heartfelt activities,

and card-making for Israeli soldiers led by Gem Suslovich, followed by singing and dancing. "The Merry Women: A Widows Support Group," led by Diane Catton, provides bi-weekly support for widows. Our Parkinson's programs, including "Rock Steady Boxing" and "Healing Music," continue to thrive, with strong participation both in-house and virtually. Caregivers of People with Parkinson's Disease benefit from Zoom sessions facilitated by Erika Adelman, who also provides valuable resources. Brain Works, partnering with the Better Together Foundation, hosts 12th-grade girls from B'not Rachel for monthly visits, fostering meaningful connections through activities and conversations. A collaboration with SBH, YOF, MDY, and Barkai Yeshiva featured Dr. Regine Galanti discussing strategies from her book, "Parenting Anxious Kids." April, Parkinson's Awareness month, highlighted our ongoing commitment to support programs for individuals with Parkinson's and their caregivers.



SENIOR CENTER

Ashley Rosen, Co-director of Senior Center Aimee Mishaan, Co-director of Senior Center







Our seniors enjoyed diverse activities and outings this spring.

Trips included visits to the Paper Mill Playhouse for "After Midnight," the Westfield Garden Plaza Mall, Grand Central Terminal, and cultural sites like the NY Historical Society and the Eldridge Street Synagogue. Our Annual Senior Purim Party, in collaboration with SBH, featured lunch, singing, and dancing led by



Shlomo Haviv, with mishloach manot for all attendees.











SCCLive.org/SeniorCenter



Monthly events like "Bingo & Bruschetta," "Bingo & Babka," and "Bingo & Baba Ghanoush" were popular, with delicious snacks and many winners. The Men's Club enjoyed educational sessions on the cello and energetic workouts led by *Levi Claiborne*, followed by lunch and socializing. Special events included a day with SBH Connect at the Center and a demo on haroset from around the world.















We wrapped up the season with a final lunch and show, "Gun & Powder," leaving everyone looking forward to more engaging activities in the months ahead.







MEMBERSHIP

Your Center Membership includes:

Priority Registration to our most popular programs Special Pricing for all Center programs and classes Access to our Members-only Preschool Members-Only Special Programs for kids throughout the year Senior Exercise & Programs Top-notch, Competitive Leagues open to Members only Access to Community Services and Support Groups Discounts at Select Community Stores with <u>CenterCoin</u>

Plus:

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- -Free, pop-up fitness workshops and demonstrations

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- -Free swim, lap swim, and private and semi-private instructional swim
- -Separate men's and women's hours with adjacent locker rooms
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FOR MORE INFORMATION, CALL 718-627-4300

Stop by our Membership Office, or contact Michael Matsas Membership Coordinator, at 718-954-3125, Membership@SCCLive.org

To book a membership meeting, visit **TinyURL.com/CenterMembership** or scan the QR code



Michael Matsas, Membership Coordinator Milia Shacalo, Membership Associate Carmen Sabbagh, Accounts Receivable





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