

10th Annual Michiana Jewish Film Festival



May 11 - 14, 2020
Virtual Program in Partnership with
The DeBartolo Performing
Arts Center





Film Schedule

All films will be screened virtually through links distributed via email each day. The films will be available for viewing on the dates below.

Monday, May 11

*Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles
Standing Up, Falling Down*

Tuesday, May 12

*Crescendo
The Rabbi from Hezbollah*

Wednesday, May 13

*My Name is Sara
Shared Legacies: African American-Jewish Civil Rights Alliance*

Thursday, May 14

*Shared Legacies: Film Panel Discussion
7:30 PM*

Underwriting For Our Films Provided By:

**Cari & Barry
Shein**



Additional Funding Provided By a Grant From:



Welcome to the 10th Annual, 1st virtual, Michiana Jewish Film Festival!

The Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley is privileged to once again work with the staff of DeBartolo Performing Arts Center (DPAC) to bring you these entertaining and thoughtful films.

An unprecedented time calls for an unprecedented program. We have been planning the 10th annual film festival since early last fall. In mid-February, our committee selected 8 films for our festival, to be shown at the cinema at the DPAC. In March, everything changed, and we had to work to accommodate those changes. The virtual program we have devised is the result of that work. We hope you approve.

Thanks to our sponsors for their generous support. Without them, we would not be able to continue to make this festival a reality each year. This year especially, we appreciate their generosity and understanding for “sticking by us” as we worked to retool the festival.

We would also like to thank our partners at Notre Dame and the DPAC, especially Ricky Herbst for his expertise and effort with film selections and logistics. Thanks also to Megan Mancini for her input throughout the process. We are so grateful to have such a dedicated team working with us, and look forward to working with the whole DPAC team next year.

Our Film Festival committee worked diligently since the fall to bring you a diverse line-up this year. Thank you to the entire committee for all your hard work and dedication.

Finally, a special thank you to Sheri Alpert, Shani Kramer, Emily Benedix, and Leslie Marcum of the Jewish Federation staff for their extraordinary efforts to make this year’s festival happen.

We encourage everyone to support our sponsors. We are so grateful they have continued to support us over the years. Please show them your gratitude with your patronage.

As we say at Passover “Next year in Jerusalem.” For the 11th Michiana Jewish Film Festival, “Next year at DeBartolo.”



Moshe Kruger, Executive Director
The Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley



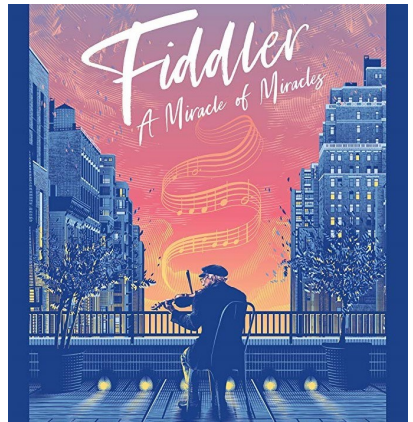


Available Monday, May 11

Fiddler: A Miracle of Miracles (92 min)

Recommended for all audiences.

One of Broadway's most beloved and long-running musicals, *Fiddler on the Roof's* creative roots and cultural impact are celebrated in this joyous documentary. Max Lewkowicz's captivating film is full of insightful interviews with the musical's creators, performance clips from productions around the world and lively commentary from admirers like Stephen Sondheim and Itzhak Perlman. This heartwarming dedication to the musical phenomenon will have you cheering l'chaim from your seats.



Standing Up, Falling Down (91 min)

Recommended for mature audiences.



This heartwarming story about family, homecoming and the elusive nature of adulthood stars Ben Schwartz (*Parks and Recreation*) as Scott, an aspiring comedian who has reluctantly moved back home after failing to hit the big time in Los Angeles. Lonely and bereft, he strikes up an unexpected friendship with his aging dermatologist (Billy Crystal). The comedic

icon all but steals the movie with his understated performance; the authentic connection between the costars gives the film its unexpected resonance.

Available Tuesday, May 12



Crescendo (102 min)

Recommended for mature audiences.

Renowned conductor Eduard Spörck is to rehearse an orchestra performance with Israeli and Palestinian youths as a symbol of rapprochement in the peace negotiations. The most varied voices from the ensemble are

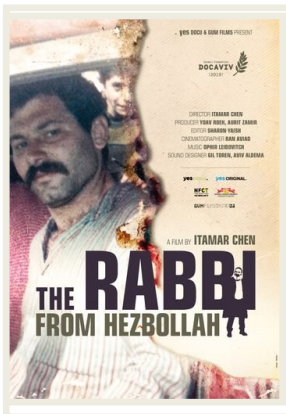


heard in this feature film, which intensifies in a slow, steady crescendo toward its moving finale. An impressive cast of Israeli and Palestinian non-actors, led by veteran Peter Simonischek, lends authenticity to this powerful drama, loosely inspired by Daniel Barenboim's West-Eastern Divan Orchestra.

The Rabbi from Hezbollah (64 min)

Recommended for mature audiences.

Ibrahim Yassin was born in a small village in Lebanon and was destined to follow in his father's footsteps as a farmer and shepherd, but fate had something else in store. As the course of his life turns against him,



death becomes his only wish. But just when it seems as if the story's over, a new one begins that sounds like a work of suspense fiction, placing Yassin at the heart of some of the most daring, dangerous and secret operations Israel attempted in Lebanon in the 1980s and 90s. When once again the earth trembles beneath his feet, he is forced to start all over again. The film sketches an intimate portrait of a man who through tribulations, coincidence and choice became one of Israel's leading spies.



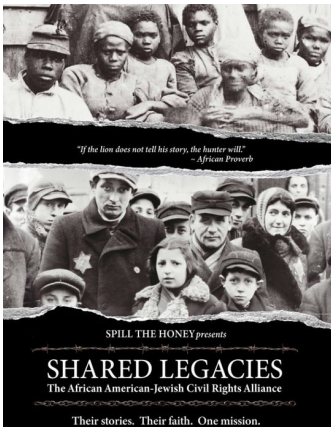
Available Wednesday, May 13

My Name is Sara (111 min) Recommended for mature audiences.

My Name is Sara tells the true story of Sara Guralnick, a 13 year-old Polish Jew whose entire family was killed by the Nazis in September of 1942. After a grueling escape to the Ukrainian countryside, Sara steals her Christian best friend's identity and finds refuge in a small village where she is taken in by a farmer and his young wife. She soon discovers the dark secrets of her employers' marriage, compounding the greatest secret she must strive to protect, her true identity.



Shared Legacies: The African American - Jewish Civil Rights Alliance (95 min) Recommended for all audiences.



The crucial historical lessons of Black-Jewish cooperation are revisited and revived in this utterly fascinating, urgent call to action. Pivotal events come alive through a treasure trove of archival materials, narrated by eyewitnesses, activists, Holocaust survivors, and leaders of the movement, including prominent figures such as Congressman John Lewis, Amb. Andrew Young, Rabbi Alvin Sugarman, Rabbi Peter S. Berg, Oscar-winning actor Louis Gossett Jr., members of the King family, and many others.

Available Wednesday to facilitate viewing by Thursday evening.

Thursday, May 14 at 7:30 PM



Shared Legacies: A Panel Discussion

Shared Legacies revisits and revives crucial historical lessons about co-operation between African Americans and Jewish Americans, culminating with the Civil Rights era. It raises questions we should address about the past, present and future of our relationship and the legacy we leave future generations. This panel, featuring many of South Bend's major figures in both the religious and civil rights arenas, will start that discussion Thursday night.

Panelists

- **Marzy Bauer**, Tzedek Seekers of Temple Beth-El, South Bend;
- **Rabbi Michael Friedland**, Rabbi of Sinai Synagogue, South Bend;
- **Darryl Heller**, Director of The Civil Rights Heritage Center;
- **Barbara Lerman**, Chair of Community Relations Committee of the Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley;
- **Professor Tzvi Novick**, Abrams Jewish Thought and Culture Associate Professor of Theology at The University of Notre Dame;
- **Michael & Tina Patton**, Pastors of Kingdom Life Christian Cathedral;

The panel will be moderated by **Ricky Herbst**, Cinema Program Director for the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.

**The Board & Staff of the
Jewish Federation of St. Joseph Valley
extend our gratitude to the staff of the
DeBartolo Performing Arts Center.**

Thanks to their continued dedication and support, the Michiana Jewish Film Festival has been a success for since 2011. We look forward to the 2021 festival when we will return to the DeBartolo Performing Arts Center!



MICHIANA JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

Thank you to our sponsors for making this year's festival come to life.

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The Kurt & Tessye Simon Fund for Holocaust Remembrance

The Kurt and Tessye Simon Fund for Holocaust Remembrance at Temple Beth-El is dedicated to developing educational resources for raising awareness of the Holocaust in both the Jewish and non-Jewish communities. The Fund was created in the hope that all people can learn to protect one another from prejudice, hate and violence.

As part of this mission, the Kurt and Tessye Simon Fund for Holocaust Remembrance has developed the People Next Door program which preserves the stories of twenty-three of our own neighbors in the South Bend area who called Europe home during the Nazi period of the 1930s and 1940s. The goal is to preserve these testimonies of first hand personal accounts, and oral histories of survivors and liberators, with the hope that the public re-telling of these stories will be a compelling and inspiring educational resource for the public at large.

Through community programs, such as an Annual Kristallnacht Program at Temple Beth-El and the semi-annual Holocaust Remembrance High School Art and Literary contest, and educational resources including The People Next Door program, we strive to enable present and future generations to keep alive the memory of the victims, in order to prevent a recurrence of such barbarism. Their stories teach us that such degradation and evil should never happen again.

For more information on The Kurt and Tessye Simon Fund for Holocaust Remembrance, the semi-annual Holocaust Remembrance High School Art and Literary contest or The People Next Door, please visit our website at <http://simonholocaustfund.org/about/index.htm>.



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