

Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Detroit's Opening the Doors Partnership Program

Sunday, January 31, 7:00-9:00 pm * Autistic License event *
Jewish Community Center Janice Charach Gallery

[Opening the Doors program](#) will be hosting the premiere screening of *Autistic License*, which is being shown worldwide, as the kick off event for Jewish Disability Awareness Month. The movie is a film of a play based on a true story written by Stacey Dinner-Levin, who describes the joys and challenges of raising a son with Autism. Stacey's husband, Michael Levin, plays the part of their child. This inspiring event is free of charge. This event is an opportunity to recognize those who provide academic, behavioral and recreational support for children with special needs in our community.

Monday, February 1, 7:15-8:15 pm * Jordan Levin, motivational speaker
* Temple Kol Ami

[Opening the Doors program](#) is sponsoring speaker Jordan Levin, an adult that is profoundly hearing-impaired, and his parents, to present at Temple Kol Ami's religious school program for high schools students' and their parents. He will share with the audience his motivational and inspirational life story; how he overcame obstacles, and the lessons to be learned from it. Martin Levin is the author of *We Were Relentless: A Family's Journey to Overcome Disability*.

Thursday, February 4, 7:00-8:30 pm * Marcy Walsh * Temple Israel

Temple Israel will be hosting two great programs for parents. Marcy Walsh will run a great parent and baby program at Temple Israel. In the evening, She will also present an interactive parent workshop to help children pre - school – third grade reduce stress and take charge, entitled: *Taking Charge of Change*.

Saturday, February 6 * Front of the Class * CBS airing

CBS will be showing Hallmark Hall of Fame movie, *Front of the Class*.

Sunday, February 7, 9:45 -10:30 am * Chamsa event *
Jewish Community Center

In collaboration with the Janice Charach Gallery in the Jewish Community Center, [Opening the Doors](#) will be hosting a wonderful, hands-on event for children with special needs. Each child will learn about and receive his very own chamsa to paint and decorate as desired. The chamsa will then be displayed at the Gallery's Chamsa display, or brought home by the child.

Sunday, February 7, 1:30- 4:30 p.m. * Front of the Class *
Adat Shalom Synagogue

Join [Opening the Doors](#) as we welcome Jimmy Wolk, star actor of Front of the Class, to our community. Jimmy will give an inspiring presentation to the audience, and will speak about his role in the film, and his experiences portraying, Brad Cohen, an adult with Tourette syndrome. Jimmy's presentation will be followed by a screening of the Front of the Class. This is the true triumphant story of how Brad overcame incredible obstacles to become an award winning teacher, author, and motivational speaker. Other actors are Patricia Heaton and Treat Williams.

Sunday, February 7 * Friendship Circle Training * Friendship Circle

Friendship Circle will be having a special training for all of their teen volunteers.

Sunday, February 7 * JARC/ Heart to Heart * JARC

JARC committee members and teen volunteers for Heart to Heart will work together to create care packages for children with HIV.

Tuesday, February 9 * JCADA training * Federation's Alliance
Department

[Federation's Alliance department](#) will receive training from JCADA (Jewish Coalition against Abuse) at their bi-monthly meeting. JCADA is part of Jewish Family Services, who will provide the training.

Wednesday, February 10 * P'tach Annual Dinner * Dovid Ben Nuchim

The MI branch of P'tach, a worldwide special needs program based in the Jewish Day Schools, will be holding their 31st annual dinner in February this year, in honor of Jewish Disabilities Awareness Month. The guest speaker will be the renowned, Rabbi Berel Wein.

Thursday, February 11, 12:15-1:30 p.m. * Pam McCaskill, Ph.D. *
Temple Israel Early Childhood

[Opening the Doors](#) will be sponsoring Pam McCaskill, Ph.D to speak to the Early Childhood teachers of Temple Israel. Her topic will be, Managing the Difficult Child in the School Setting, and it will be an informative presentation, with practical tools and strategies for the classroom.

Thursday, February 11, 4:00-6:15 pm * Robyn Glickman, Psychologist
* Temple Israel

[Opening the Doors](#) will be sponsoring Robyn Glickman, psychologist, to speak to the teen Madrichim at Temple Israel. Robyn will give a training session to these teens who are madrichim in the religious school program, for children with special needs, entitled: *Tips for Madrichim: Learn to Handle Difficult Situations as Easy as Texting.*

Thursday, February 18, 7:30- 8:30 pm * Robyn Glickman, psychologist
* Temple Emanu-El

[Opening the Doors](#) will be sponsoring Robyn Glickman, psychologist, to speak to the religious school teachers at Temple Emanu-El. Her presentation will be *Differentiated Instruction*, and will be a practical and informative presentation.

Sunday, February 21 * JARC Film Club * Huntington Woods Library

JARC volunteers will join the JARC constituents at the Huntington Woods Library for a day together.

Monday, February 22, 3:00- 4:00 pm * Front of the Class follow-up *
Akiva Hebrew Day School

In collaboration with [Opening the Doors Program](#), the 6 Jewish Day Schools will gather for a follow-up panel discussion of Front of the Class. Dr. Bill Bloom will be the moderator, and the panelists will consist of Special Education Teachers, Renee Samuels (WB) and Bob Bialecki (WL) and Akiva Day School Educational Director, Chaye Kohl.

Wednesday, February 24, 6:30-7:30 p.m. * Front of the Class Follow
Up * Adat Shalom Synagogue

All congregational teachers and directors will be invited to attend to follow up sessions for *Front of the Class*.

Tuesday, March 2, 12:30 – 2:30 pm * Maryln Appelbaum *
Congregation Shaarey Zedek

[Opening the Doors](#) is bringing in Maryln Appelbaum, Ph.D. from California, educator and director of Appelbaum Training Institute for a lunch and learn for a presentation on *Social skills for Pre-School Children*, for the Early Childhood Directors and Educators of our partnership Congregation schools and Day Schools.

7:00 – 8:30 pm

She will also speak on the topic, *49 Ways to Set your Child Up for Success in School and in Life*. She will give a parent session on the same topic later in the evening for Early Childhood Parents and Grandparents.

Wednesday, March 3, 7:15 – 7:45 pm * Maryln Appelbaum *
Congregation Shaarey Zedek Closing Event for February Jewish Disability
Awareness Month

Maryln Appelbaum will present an informal question/answer session to the [Opening the Doors](#) Special Education Teachers. This will be followed by a presentation to the Religious School and Day School teachers and Special Educators on the topic of *49 Ways to Handle the Hard to Handle Student*.

We would like to extend a special THANK YOU to
Mary Must
Madelon & Lou Seligman

& Thank You to our generous sponsors and community participants:

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Friendship Circle
JARC
Jewish Community Center of Metro Detroit
Jewish Community Center of Metro Detroit Inclusion Program
Jewish Family Service
P'tach

If you require special accommodation in order to participate in the programs please contact the sponsoring organizations.

