



SEATTLE JEWISH  
**FILM**  
 FESTIVAL

Save the Date!  
**March 17th- 25th**  
[seattlejewishfilmfestival.org](http://seattlejewishfilmfestival.org)

## The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Seattle Jewish Film Festival

There's a reason the SEATTLE WEEKLY praises the Seattle Jewish Film Festival as the best ethnic festival in our region, second only to SIFF. We will kick off our 12th annual Seattle Jewish Film Festival with a resounding bang, as we toast our continued success on Opening Night at the Palace Ballroom hosted by Tom Douglas. This year, we've decided to spread out all the hoopla from beginning to end, rescheduling the VIP Party at Il Fornaio from its usual slot on our first Sunday to the following Sunday for a Closing Night Party - a rewarding celebration. So be prepared for a "festive" week March 17-25.

Festival screenings will take place at Cinerama Opening Weekend and Closing Sunday, and at MOHAI in between. We have rented the entire upstairs gallery at MOHAI this year, where folks will enter the festival, purchase tickets, peruse AJC and community partner tables, enjoy exhibits and grab a nosh. Our goal is to create a cultural gathering space and social destination in which SJFF festival-goers will linger, chat and catch the community spirit we always strive for but was not possible last year in the small lobby outside MOHAI's theatre. MOHAI has also given us permission to bring food into the theatre, again adding to the movie-going experience. We are seeing a lot of amazing films from Israel and France this year, and a smattering of films from Nordic countries. And we hope, with W Hotel as SJFF's exclusive hospitality sponsor this year, to invite quality guest artists from near and far.

SJFF co-chairs Michael Levin and Michele Tesler are spearheading an incredible committee decided on viewing multiple screeners together and individually on a weekly basis. By the time film selection is finalized on January 9th, each film will have been viewed by at least 3-5 committee members, making the process both challenging and coordinated. Hats off to our committee of long-standing and new members: Shelly Dillon, AJC President Moshe Dunie, Julian Judelman, Marilyn Meyer, Michael Levin (co-chair), Pip Meyerson, Ron Ralph, David Rind, Michele Tesler (co-chair), and Marilyn Weissman.



*We appreciate everyone's  
 patronage and support.  
 See you at the movies!*



**FILMTalks!** is AJC's unique day-long program to bring high school students from local schools together for a day of dialogue on issues of pluralism, prejudice and mutual respect. This year's event will be held at MOHAI on **Friday, April 20th**. Volunteers needed! Contact Pamela Lavitt for information at: [lavittp@ajc.org](mailto:lavittp@ajc.org) or 206-622-6315.

Volunteers Needed!  
 Please Call:  
 206-622-6315

### Students who participated in FILMTalks! 2006 had the following comments:

- take the time to learn more about injustice
- I will stop to open my eyes! Open my eyes to the truth
- I will confront racism, sexism, classism and homophobia by calling people on what they say
- Personally, I will step up and take notice when people are getting discriminated against because of their differences
- their differences, after all, are what make them beautiful and unique individuals
- It's just a matter of taking a second to realize injustice is real
- international human rights crisis, such as Darfur need attention
- I will continue to lead my schools Model United Nations club, increasing international awareness of issues such as this
- My promise to myself is to write once again to my representative
- I want to seek out information on Darfur – don't wait for the media to tell me things
-

# Members of Seattle Consular Association Gather to Celebrate Hanukkah

Acting on a national mandate to share perspectives on issues of concern with members of the diplomatic corps, representatives of the local chapter have met with the Ambassador of the Czech Republic, the French Deputy Consul, the German Consul General, and most recently, the Vice-consul of Azerbaijan, all visiting from elsewhere in the country.

Part of our job is also to expose local consuls to American Jewish culture and so, Jon and Bobbe Bridge, both past presidents of the Chapter, hosted our second annual Hanukkah celebration for members of the Seattle Consular Association. Attending the event were representatives of Japan, South Korea, Australia, Belgium, Hungary, Austria, Lithuania, Iceland, Peru and Uzbekistan. Prof. Noam Pianko of the University of Washington spoke on the cultural implications of Hanukkah then and now. Rabbi Anson Laytner, executive director, briefed the group on the Christmas tree/menorah controversy at SeaTac airport.



## Honor someone you love with a gift to the AJC

Honor a special person in your life with a gift to the American Jewish Committee. Your gift provides a lasting tribute to a family member, friend, or colleague and contributes valuable support to improved human relations in our community.

You can also designate your tribute towards a specific program if you wish: the Film Festival, the Block Student Human Relations Awards, the Consular Outreach program, Investing in People for Israeli-Palestinian Peace, or FilmTalks.

A gift "in honor of" someone is usually made at a time of celebration such as a birthday, graduation, holiday, promotion, or retirement.

A gift "in memory of" someone is made to honor a loved one who recently passed away.

Each gift made in honor of someone receives an acknowledgment to the donor as well as a card to the recipient or family of the recipient. To make a gift in honor or in memory of a special person in your life, please mail your donation to AJC or call (206) 622-6315 ext. 4.

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**Rabbi Anson Laytner**  
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**2007 Board of Directors**

## Local Leaders Receive National AJC Appointments

- **Deborah Rosen**, one of our most active past presidents, has been nominated to serve as a Vice-president of the National AJC. She is the first person from the Greater Seattle Chapter—at least to our knowledge—to reach such a high level in the national organization.
- **Moshe Dunie**, president of the Greater Seattle Chapter, has also been nominated to the National AJC Board of Governors, where he joins other longtime local leaders, Carol Gown and Deborah Rosen.

### Chapter News: Welcome New Staff!

#### **Kathleen Crowell**

Kathleen Crowell has taken on the new position of Development Director for the AJC and its major program, the SJFF. Previously, Kathleen was the Development Manager for the Museum of History & Industry where she assisted with membership, fundraising campaigns and special events. Kathleen has also worked at Special Olympics Washington and the Woodland Park Zoo and helped these institutions achieve their fundraising goals. She received a BA in English Literature from University of Puget Sound and a Master of Not-for-Profit Leadership from Seattle University. Kathleen is eager to transfer her skills to the American Jewish Committee and help it become a financially strong and mission driven organization.

Kathleen is a Seattle native and currently resides in West Seattle with her husband, Casey, and pre-school son, Dillon. She treasures the time that she can spend practicing yoga, taking walks with her friends or dog, spending time with family and reading novels.

#### **Pamela Lavitt**

Many of you already know Pamela Lavitt, who served as SJFF Film Curator and Program Manager for three years, and finally steps into the Director's chair. Pamela is a graduate of Duke University and completed her doctoral coursework in Jewish folklore and theatre history at New York University with fellowships in Yiddish Studies at Columbia University and YIVO Archives. At NYU, she taught in the Drama and English departments, while working with the Jewish Museum's New York Jewish Film Festival and conducting field work as a folklorist in upstate New York.

After moving to Seattle, Pamela became SJFF's first official curator in 2000 and, before returning to AJC in 2005, Pamela taught in Jewish and Women's Studies at the Henry M. Jackson School of International Studies at University of Washington, researched the 2002 New York Jewish Museum's exhibit, "Entertaining America: Jews in Radio Television and Film," and served as oral historian for the Jewish Women's Archive's "Weaving Women's Project" which culminated in an exhibit at the Museum of History & Industry in 2003. Oh yes, and managed to have identical twins. Pamela has published widely on the history of Jewish women in vaudeville in such publications as *American Jewish History* and the upcoming three-volume *History of Jews in American Popular Culture*.

In her spare time, Pamela does aerobics, reads *The New Yorker*, and treasures laughs with husband Rob and twin daughters, Danielle and Margot, now 4.

#### **Satina Smith**

Satina Smith joined the staff at AJC in November as the Office Operations Manager. Previously, Satina served as a Hospital Chaplain at Scott and White Hospital in Temple, Texas. Satina earned her Master of Divinity at Princeton Theological Seminary in 2005 and is under care with the Presbytery of New Brunswick seeking ordination with the Presbyterian Church (USA). Working for the AJC will provide Satina with valuable experience for her long-term goals in ministry both in the non-profit and interfaith arenas. Satina also holds a degree in Communication and has managed projects in a variety of office settings.

Satina is originally from Salt Lake City, Utah and has joined her two sisters who live in Seattle. Her volunteer work in the area includes caring for people with AIDS and public speaking. She enjoys the arts; as well as cooking, reading, and spending time with her twelve-year-old son Robin.

## Let us know how to contact you!

Sign up for email announcements! Email us at [seattle@ajc.org](mailto:seattle@ajc.org) and we can send you updates for upcoming events and programs.

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## **The American Jewish Committee**

**Advancing democracy, pluralism and mutual understanding**

### **Greater Seattle Chapter**

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ואהבת לרעך כמוך

"Love your neighbor. S/he is like you."

# AJC Notice of Upcoming Events

## **Saturday, March 17th - Sunday, March 25th** **The 12th Annual Seattle Jewish Film Festival**

SJFF has grown to be one of the largest international film festivals in the region. Films will be shown at both Cinerama and MOHAI.

## **Friday, April 20th** **FILMTalks!**

FILMTalks is AJC's unique day-long program to bring high school students from local schools together for a day of dialogue on issues of pluralism, prejudice and mutual respect. This event will be held at MOHAI.

## **Saturday, April 28th** **AJC's annual Donor Appreciation Party**

At Pike Brewery and Pub!

## **Tuesday, May 1st - Friday, May 4th** **AJC's Annual Meeting**

The National organization's 101st meeting will be held in in Washington D.C.  
[Book your flights now to get the best deal!](#)

## **Monday, June 4th** **AJC Salutes: A Centennial Send-off**

Featuring the presentation of the Block Student Human Relations Awards and a salute to our past Chapter Presidents.