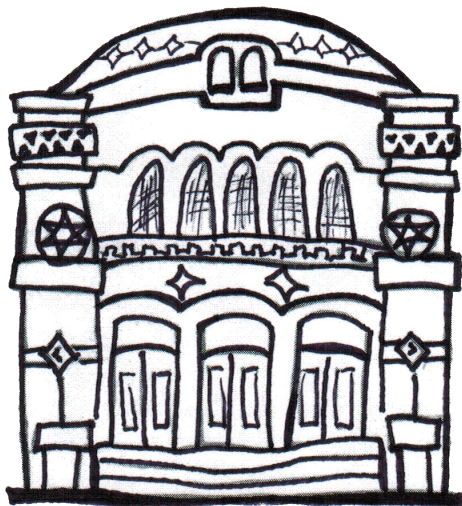


TOURO SYNAGOGUE



“Let the **old** become **new**
and the new
become **holy.**”

- Rav Avraham Yitzchak Kook

L'SHANA TOVA!

5776

Welcome to Touro Synagogue!



How wonderful that you have chosen to worship with us during these High Holy Days. Touro has many beautiful traditions which enhance our religious experiences. Our services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur are among the most meaningful and spiritual moments in the life of this congregation. We hope you will enjoy the prayers and musical renditions which are lovingly prepared by our clergy, Rabbi Berk, Rabbi Silverman and Cantor Mintz. It is our wish that we provide something for everyone, from Tot to Senior, which makes these Days of Awe special for you. We are happy to have members, as well as those who are still searching for a "temple home," and all guests join us in reflection and celebration of the New Year. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions, concerns or compliments! I look forward to wishing each of you a L'Shana Tova.

Susan Good
President@TouroSynagogue.com

Rosh Hashanah

CONGREGATIONAL LUNCHEON

You are cordially invited to join us for lunch after Rosh Hashanah Morning Service on September 14th in the Jacobs Social Hall

OPEN TO ALL

\$20 adults / \$10 children
suggested donation

Break-the-Fast Reception

Wednesday, September 23, 2015

Please join us for a light break-the-fast in the Bowksy Garden following the Neilah Concluding Service

All are welcome!

In case of inclement weather, break-the-fast will take place in the Jacobs Social Hall



Celebrate the High Holy Days at Touro

Erev Rosh Hashanah

Sunday, September 13

8:00pm Evening Service, Main Sanctuary

Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 14

9:00am Young Family Service, Forgetston Chapel

9:00am Tot Service, Grant Meyer Garden Pavilion

10:00am Morning Service, Main Sanctuary

12:30pm Congregational Rosh Hashanah Luncheon

3:00pm Tashlich, City Park at the Boat Dock

Shabbat Shuvah

Friday, September 18

6:00pm Shabbat Service, Forgetston Chapel

6:45pm Shabbat Dinner

7:30pm Friday Night Kumsitz (Communal Singing following services)

Erev Yom Kippur

Tuesday, September 22

8:00pm Kol Nidre Service, Main Sanctuary

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, September 23

9:00am Young Family Service, Forgetston Chapel

9:00am Tot Service, Grant Meyer Garden Pavilion

10:00am Morning Service, Main Sanctuary

12:30pm Music & Meditation Service,
Grant Meyer Garden Pavilion

2:00pm Afternoon Study and Reflection, Forgetston Chapel

3:15pm Afternoon Service and Torah Reading, Main Sanctuary

4:15pm Yizkor/Memorial Service, Main Sanctuary

5:00pm Neilah-Concluding Service, Main Sanctuary

Simple Break-the-Fast

Enjoy a light snack following the Neilah Concluding Service in the Bowsky Garden

High Holy Day Services for Families with Children Under 12

For babies and toddlers

Tot Services

Littlest ones (ages 0-3 years) join Cantor Mintz and Rabbi Berk for a blessing and singing in the New Year.

Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 14

9:00 - 9:20 am

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, September 23

9:00 - 9:20 am

Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur tot services held in the Grant Meyer Garden Pavilion.

For children ages 4-8

Young Family Services

Please join Rabbi Silverman and Nick May for interactive Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur services for children ages 4 through 8, accompanied by their parents. There will be prayer, stories, music and fun!

Rosh Hashanah

Monday, September 14

9:00 - 9:45 am

Yom Kippur

Wednesday, September 23

9:00 - 9:45 am

Young Family services will be in the Forgetston Chapel and are not intended for babies and toddlers.

For children ages 8-12

"The Stories and Lessons of the Season"

Special discussion session and interactive project during services on both Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur morning. Exit service when announced and rejoin your family in time for the conclusion of main service.

Parking Information - We are grateful to our friends at the Academy of The Sacred Heart who have graciously offered us the use of their parking lot located on Carondelet St. between General Pershing and Milan. Unfortunately, during the day-time services on Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur school will be in session so the available spots will be limited. Please use the available spaces furthest from the school. Please respect our neighbors and do not park in a driveway, and observe any posted signs you find in the lot.

Tashlich at City Park

**Please join Touro Synagogue on September 14 at 3 p.m.
for Tashlich and singing with Cantor Mintz, Rabbi Berk,
and Rabbi Silverman at City Park's Boat Dock.
Bring a picnic snack, cold beer or soft drinks to share.
Come with your frisbee, football and even your dog!**



JEWCCY PRESENTS:

5776

AUDUBON PARK

Food, fun, forgiveness

A unique Rosh Hashanah opportunity for teens

September 14th 3:45 p.m.

Meet at the St. Charles entrance.



All 6th-12th graders
welcome.

Contact Ivy Cohen
with any questions at
jewccy@gmail.com.

Registration: [https://
jewccy.wufoo.com/
forms/rosh-hashanah-
in-the-park/](https://jewccy.wufoo.com/forms/rosh-hashanah-in-the-park/)

Join us for Lunch in the Sukkah

Come be with our clergy for a lovely lunch
in our congregational sukkah, hand built by
our Confirmation class and Touro Synagogue
architects.



Bring yourself and a brown bag lunch, and we'll provide
drinks and a gorgeous courtyard sukkah
on these early fall days.

12:00-1:00pm

Come to one or all – we'd love to be with you.

- **Rabbi Alexis Berk will host on Tuesday, September 29**
- **Cantor David Mintz will host on Wednesday, September 30**
- **Rabbi Todd Silverman will host on Thursday, October 1**



Bowsky Garden
following Services
October 2

**Bring a bottle
of your favorite
wine to share!**

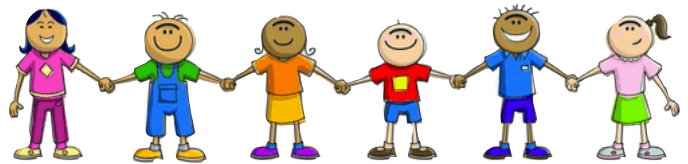
Join us for an elegant
Shabbat dinner in our
courtyard in celebration
of Sukkot!

Scrumptious food, delicious wines
and great company – under the
twinkling white lights in the
trees of our Bowsky Garden.

TOT SHABBAT ROCKS!

October 3, 9:30-10:15 a.m. with
Rabbi Silverman and Cantor Mintz
in the Shushan Assembly

Come for a little Sukkot fun with songs, movement,
shaking the lulav, challah and more. For all newborns
through pre-school age children with their parents.
Any families interested in hosting throughout the year,
contact Rabbi Silverman with any questions.



On Friday evenings during Shabbat services, Touro Synagogue is
pleased to offer fun activities for our youngest attendees during
Shabbat services. We've got board games, ping pong, toys and
more! Littles (ages 0-5) in the Pre-K classroom on the 1st floor of the
Religious School. Bigs (6 and up) in the Jacobs Social Hall.



SIMCHAT TORAH IN THE PARK

Sunday, October 4, 9:30a.m.,
Danneel Park at Danneel and Octavia Streets

Join us at Danneel Park for a Simchat Torah brunch and community
celebration, as we lift our voices in song, hear the chanting of the
Torah and dance into the afternoon with the Panorama Jazz Band!



Come early! Bring your favorite
brunch items like donuts and milk
or Bloody Mary fixings with extra
olives.
Load up your blankets and chairs;
Onsite restrooms will be provided.

9:30 a.m.: Brunch Picnic; BYOB (bring your own brunch) donuts
and milk; mimosas and fruit – whatever you fancy!

10:15 a.m.: Dance with Panorama Jazz Band, Hold the Torah; join
in the celebration with Cantor Mintz

10:45 a.m.: Torah unroll – hear the whole Torah in ten minutes!
Special stories and interpretations with Rabbi Berk and
Rabbi Silverman

11:15 a.m.: Games and fun! Bring your footballs and frisbees!



Shabbat

Tisch



As Shabbat day turns into evening, and we prepare to transition into the week, join Cantor Mintz as we come together to enjoy the final moments of the day with festive singing, stories, Torah learning, havdallah, and of course, food and drink!

Bring a light dish or snack to share, as we come together for this monthly Shabbat celebration.

Please join us for this year's first Shabbat Tisch on Saturday, October 3rd at 6:30pm.

Shabbat Dinner every week at Touro Synagogue

Celebrating a simcha? Help support Touro Synagogue's beautiful Shabbat experience as you remember a loved one, celebrate your next birthday, anniversary, engagement, child's birth, grandchild's birth or other simchas by sponsoring a dinner at one of our Friday night services.

Did you know that for \$250 you can sponsor the Shabbat Dinner on Friday Night?

*For more information please contact
Donna in the office at 895-4843.*



RICK RECHT



Join us for a **FREE**
Community Concert!

Touro Synagogue

10.18.15
12:00PM

11:30AM Community Lunch
\$5 per person

For more information please
call 504-895-4843



rickrecht.com • facebook.com/rickrechtworld



Touro Synagogue
4238 St. Charles Avenue
New Orleans, LA 70115



Touro Synagogue

Center for Intellect and Spirituality

Experiential offerings for the mind, heart, and soul – for adults

JUDAISM • JEWISHNESS • JEWRY

News and the Jews

A New Learning Experience!

Each week, there are stories in our community and our world that confound us and comfort us, confuse us and confront us.

What would Judaism say about these world issues?

What is a Jewish response?

Join Rabbi Alexis Berk in the Mautner Learning Center for a lunchtime study. Each session will be completely unique in that we will explore a story from the week's news through a Jewish lens, with a Jewish mindset.

Come join us! All are welcome.

Dates below:

Oct. 8, 22; Nov. 12, 19; Dec. 3, 17; Jan. 7, 21;

Feb. 4, 18; Mar. 3, 17; Apr. 7, 21; May 5, 19

***All sessions will take place from 12 p.m. - 1 p.m.**

On select Thursdays.



Calling all Torah readers



Do you enjoy chanting Torah? Are you looking for opportunities to use this vital skill to empower yourself and the community? Join our corps of Torah chanters and help lead and elevate our community!

Basic Hebrew skills are necessary.

If you're interested, please contact

Cantor Mintz at dmintz@touro synagogue.com

JEWISH ETHICS

for physicians & health care providers

Tuesday, October 6, 6:30 p.m.

in the Mautner Learning center

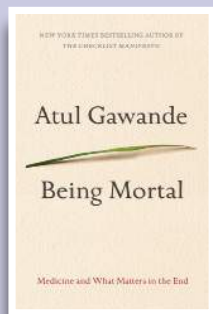
Also taking place January 16 and March 15

Join Rabbi Berk in exploring how we bring Jewish ethics to our professional lives. The session is driven by relevant ethical issues affecting health care providers. We look forward to seeing you there. Please RSVP to info@touro synagogue.com.



LITERATURE & LIBATIONS

Join Rabbi Berk for a light dinner, a glass of wine, and a lively and reflective discussion. All are welcome. Whether you are old, young, parent, child, caregiver, care receiver, well, ailing, or just a human being traveling on this journey of life, this book is for you.



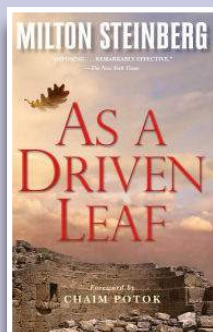
**January 13, 2016
6:00p.m.**

"We've been wrong about what our job is in medicine," writes Atul Gawande, a surgeon (at Brigham and Women's Hospital in Boston) and a writer (at the New Yorker). "We think...[it] is to ensure health and survival. But really...it is to enable well-being. And well-being is about the reasons one wishes to be alive." Through interviews with doctors, stories from and about health care providers (such as the woman who pioneered the notion of "assisted living" for the elderly)—and eventually, by way of the story of his own father's dying, Gawande examines the cracks in the system of health care to the aged and to the seriously ill who might have different needs and expectations than the ones family members predict. In his compassionate, learned way, Gawande shows all of us—doctors included—how mortality must be faced, with both heart and mind.

— Sara Nelson

To order: <http://tinyurl.com/nltgn3u>

Join Rabbi Silverman for another opportunity for a light dinner, a glass of wine, and an in-depth discussion of one of the most significant Jewish novels of the 20th century. All are welcome to attend, whether to participate or just to listen. For anyone who has ever struggled to reconcile their faith with their surrounding culture, this book may be right up your alley.



**April 14, 2016
6:00p.m.**

Based on a recurring character found throughout the Talmud, *As a Driven Leaf* focuses on the life and times of Elisha ben Abuya, a Jew raised simultaneously in the religious and secular worlds of 1st-century Ancient Rome. Unable to fully believe in the merits of either of the two, he struggles to reconcile them by finding common ground and ultimate truth. Ridiculed and marginalized by each community, he earns the nickname "Acher" and "the Other" from his Jewish contemporaries, and is forced by the political leaders of his day to choose between loyalty to one group or the other. His decision brings about heart-breaking consequences. Since its publication, the book has been lauded by critics as a powerful, imposing, breath-taking, tense and informative piece of literature. Author Chaim Potok, famous for his works including *The Chosen* and *My Name is Asher Lev*, claimed the book as one of his favorites, writing, "Nothing I have ever heard or read was able to bring the world of the rabbis so vividly to life."

To order: <http://tinyurl.com/opa7fww>

Questions? Contact info@touroynagogue.com



Touro's Adult Hebrew Academy

THIS FALL

Introduction to Hebrew on Tuesdays

Join Cantor Mintz and study the Hebrew language for the very first time! The Tuesday evening class will include learning the basics of decoding Hebrew letters and building the skills for Hebrew reading.

September 29th
October 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th
November 3rd, 10th, 17th

**All sessions take place at 6:30 p.m.
in the Mautner Learning Center**

Beyond Decoding Hebrew on Thursdays

For those who already have basic familiarity with Hebrew letters and are ready to take their Hebrew skills to the next level, join Rabbi Silverman for this Thursday evening course.

October 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd, 29th
November 5th, 12th, 19th

**All sessions take place at 6:30 p.m.
in the Mautner Learning Center**

SPRING 2016

Torah Trope on Tuesdays

Take your Hebrew reading to the next level and empower yourself by learning to chant Torah in this Tuesday evening class with Cantor Mintz.

February 16, 23
March 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

**All sessions take place at 6:30 p.m.
in the Mautner Learning Center**

Hebrew of the Siddur and Rabbinic Texts on Thursdays

Go beyond the basics of Hebrew decoding and begin to unlock the language of the Siddur and Rabbinic texts in this Thursday evening class with Rabbi Silverman.

February 18, 25
March 10, 17, 24, 31

**All sessions take place at 6:30 p.m.
in the Mautner Learning Center**

Touro Synagogue
Monthly Meditation Group
with Rabbi Berk

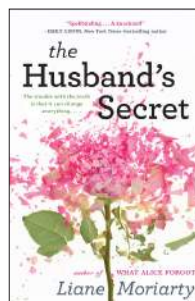
Spend your midday with Rabbi Berk and take a little sweet time for the soul. Allow the heart to focus and the mind to be calm - a spiritual oasis in your day. No previous meditation experience necessary. Come to one or all sessions. Drop-ins welcome!

Meet us in the Forgotston Chapel at 12:00-12:45 on the following dates:

Rosh Chodesh Cheshvan - Oct. 13
Rosh Chodesh Kislev - Nov. 11
Rosh Chodesh Tevet - Dec. 15
Rosh Chodesh Sh'vat- Jan. 12
Rosh Chodesh Adar - March 10
Rosh Chodesh Nisan - April 6
Rosh Chodesh Iyar - May 10

Touro Book Group for Women

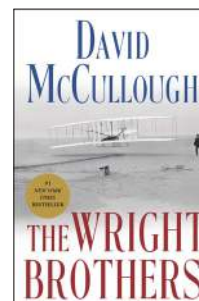
The Husband's Secret
by Liane Moriarty



Monday, Oct. 26

Discussion led by
Kitzi Goldman

The Wright Brothers
by David McCullough



Monday, Jan. 25

Discussion led by
Pat Reardon

All meetings are in the Mautner Learning Center at 10:30 a.m. For more information and to be included on the mailing list, contact Marjorie Weiner at mgweiner@aol.com or 398-1669.

TORAH STUDY AT TOURO SYNAGOGUE

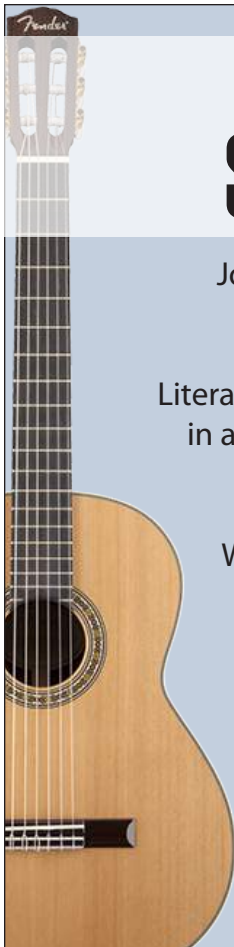


Join us for Torah Study
Saturday mornings from
9 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. in the
Mautner Learning Center.

Torah study began meeting every other week about 25 years ago. Eventually, the demand for a weekly session grew and the group decided to meet every Saturday. Each week the group discusses the weekly Parashah or Torah Portion in the Mautner Learning Center, and the session is led by a different lay leader each week.

All who are interested are welcome, no prior Torah knowledge or Hebrew skills needed. A light breakfast of bagels, juice and coffee is served.

Come to one - or all sessions. All are welcome!



Join Cantor David Mintz for **SHABBAT SHUVAH KUMZITS**

Join us once again on Shabbat Shuvah (the Shabbat between Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur) for the first of our monthly gatherings for communal singing!

Literally meaning “come and sit” in Yiddish, a kumzits is an opportunity to gather together in an intimate setting, for some beautiful passionate singing and a powerful, spiritual experience.

We hope you'll join us for these monthly gatherings following Shabbat services and dinner, beginning on **September 18th!**

MEET US IN THE SHUSHAN ASSEMBLY FOLLOWING SERVICES

Mark your calendars for more!

Oct. 9, Nov. 13, Dec. 18, Jan. 8, Feb. 12,
March 11, April 8 and May 13

TOURO CONGREGATIONAL CHOIR



WHAT CHOIR MEMBERS ARE SAYING:

**“I love singing and celebrating my Judaism.
In the choir, I get to do both!”**

**“Something amazing happens when people
sing in harmony. I can't get enough of it!”**

**“I love the people and the music. It never
disappoints.”**

An integral part of the musical experience at Touro, our congregational choir adds its voice throughout the year, during the High Holy Days, Jazz Fest Shabbat and other special Shabbat services. If you've ever thought about becoming a part of the choir yourself, consider giving it a try in this new year!

With no long-term commitment required, anyone is invited to attend a rehearsal to see if the Touro Synagogue choir is right for you!

**For information about joining the choir, please contact
Cantor Mintz at dmintz@tourosynagogue.com**



TOURO SYNAGOGUE INVITES YOU TO JOIN IN
CELEBRATING THE INSTALLATION OF

Rabbi Todd Silverman

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 30, 6 PM,
FOLLOWED BY A SHABBAT DINNER RECEPTION



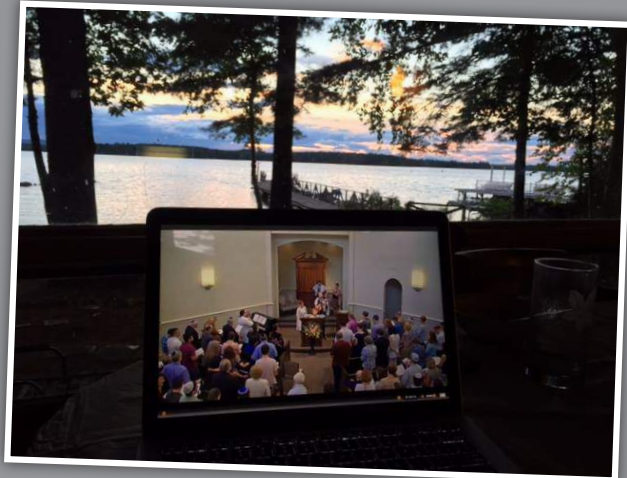
To learn more about
Rabbi Silverman,
visit our website at
tourosynagogue.com



**A VERY
SPECIAL
THANKS**

Touro Synagogue would like
to thank Beverly Katz and her
company for making our
Bowsky Garden so beautiful.

WE'RE LIVESTREAMING OUR SERVICES



Visit us at tourosynagogue.com
to see Shabbat services live or to
check out archived sermons.

The Jewish Composer Lecture Series Presented by George Dansker:

TAKE ME TO THE WORLD: THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF STEPHEN SONDHEIM

The George Dansker lecture series continues with another wonderful program saluting the great Jewish-American composers of Broadway and Hollywood. This year, we will honor Stephen Sondheim, perhaps the greatest Broadway composer of our time. Learn about his fascinating life, hear his glorious music and explore the ways that he redefined contemporary musical theater as we know it today.

**FRIDAY,
JANUARY
15TH**

**FOLLOWING
SHABBAT
SERVICES IN
THE GRANT
MEYER
GARDEN
PAVILION**

**Be sure to join us for this
special evening!**

**Hey Guys – are you competitive
and searching for a softball league,
or simply looking for something
recreational to do with other Touro
members?**

**Join Touro Synagogue's Softball League! We play March
through July against the other synagogues' teams.**

Ages 14 and up.



**Sign up! Need more info?
Contact Team Captain Brian Shepard
bravescam@aol.com**

SAVE THE DATE

**PLEASE JOIN US
FEBRUARY 20
FOR OUR
ANNUAL
FUNDRAISING
AND FUN-FILLED
EVENT**

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS!

Save the date! Chanukah family dinner following services



Join us in the Grant Meyer Garden Pavilion on December 11, 2015.

THIRD ANNUAL **CHRISTMAS DAY** MITZVAH AT THE REBUILD CENTER

Join us on Christmas Day 2015 when Touro Synagogue hosts the full lunch-time meal at the Rebuild Center.



The Rebuild Center is run primarily by Catholic organizations and Christmas is one of their holy days and family days. In an effort to give their usual volunteers an opportunity to spend the holiday with their families, we will assist with lunch on Christmas day. Volunteers are needed to cook, serve and entertain 150-200 homeless people.

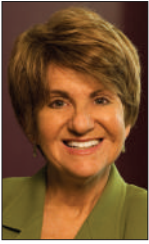
There will be lots of opportunities for the entire Touro community to get involved with this wonderful mitzvah.

This is what we will need:

- Donations of to-go boxes, cups, plastic utensils, paper napkins
- Monetary donations for food purchases (turkeys, ingredients for side dishes)
- Baked desserts
- Candy, socks, toothbrushes, and treat bags as favors for the clients
- Cooks to assist in the preparation of the food (dates to be announced)
- Servers (limited number) for the meal on Christmas Day
- Christmas carolers

Volunteers for this mitzvah will be coordinated through the Volunteer Spot website starting in November. If you have any questions contact Chris Kahn at zahava13@hotmail.com or Jeanne Kessler at jeanne.kessler@gmail.com.

Welcome, new board members



Joy Braun and her husband Andy have celebrated many cherished life cycle events at Touro Synagogue, including their marriage in 1981, B'nei Mitzvahs (Robby, Matt and Joy), and most recently a second generation Braun wedding ceremony. She is honored to join the synagogue's Board of Trustees and hopes to meaningfully contribute to its vitality during her tenure. A member of Sessions, Fishman, Nathan & Israel Law Firm, Joy has served in leadership roles for various non-profit agencies including the Anti-Defamation League South Central Region's Board, Touro Infirmary and WRBH.



Rebecca Finger is honored by the opportunity to serve on the Board of Trustees of Touro Synagogue. A 1996 graduate of Tulane University's Master of Health Administration program, Rebecca left a career in health administration fifteen years ago to devote her full attention to raising her family after the birth of her first child. She and her husband Simon are the proud parents of three great kids, Jack, Ana, and Charlie, all of who attend Religious School at Touro. Rebecca enjoys spending time volunteering both at Isidore Newman, where the Finger children attend school, as well as at Touro, where Rebecca has found a very special connection.



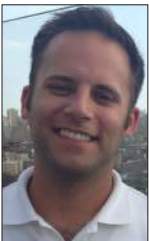
Bob Gross attended the University of Miami Law school and New York university graduate law school and has practiced law in Florida, New York and Louisiana. At one point he left a career in law to study music at Manhattan School of Music. A career as a professional trombonist led him to positions with Symphony and Opera Orchestras in New York, Venezuela and Santa Fe. It also led him to his wife, Val, a symphony violist. Bob's third career was managing various orchestras, including the Colorado Philharmonic Orchestra, the Florida Symphony, the Phoenix Symphony and the New Orleans Symphony (predecessor of the LPO). He recently retired from his fourth career as director of planned giving at Loyola University after almost 20 years. Bob and Val have two grown children, David and Elizabeth, who were raised in New Orleans. Val is in the LPO and Bob plays jazz with the New Leviathan Oriental Foxtrot Orchestra. They have lived Uptown since 1985.



Anamaria Villamarin-Lupin was born in Colombia and has been living in the US for 30 years. She has had the pleasure of living in New Orleans 19 of those years with her husband Tim Lupin whom she met at Williams College many, many years ago. Since 2004, she and Tim have had the immense honor and pleasure- peppered with trials and tribulations!- of parenting their children Nico and Alex. They are a duo of energetic joy. She spends her time with her family, training for triathlons and as the Wellness Director of The Broadmoor Improvement Association's Arts and Wellness Center. Her time at Touro has been a transformative experience and a seamless aspect of her life. Her work with Broadmoor and the food pantry that she runs there has brought her closer to an issue that is also close to the Touro community's heart: food insecurity. She has served on the Nourish committee and is honored to continue working on the community's behalf while she is on the board.



Andrew S. Jacobs is a lifelong resident of New Orleans and Touro Synagogue. He previously served on the Board during the 1990s. He is a real estate investor and along with his sisters owns the Best Western St. Charles Inn hotel. He has five exceptional daughters and a devoted, sweet wife, Carmen. Andy also serves as a Touro Synagogue representative on the Board of Hebrew Rest Cemetery Association.



Jared Glassman moved to New Orleans from Cincinnati, OH in early 2008, after he was hired by the New Orleans Fire Department as a firefighter. He has now been with the department for over seven and a half years, and currently holds the position of Fire Apparatus Operator/Paramedic. He was introduced to the Touro community through his cousin Rosanne Hirsch. He quickly fell in love with the congregation, clergy, and ideals that Touro upholds! Currently he co-teaches the 7/8th grade religious school class on Sundays. You can find him here other days throughout the week for Shabbat, or "pestering Cantor Mintz to teach me more Torah!" He is honored to be serving on the board for this next year, and really hopes to participate in some of the social action initiatives. Some fun random info about Jared: "I'm a pretty good cook, I have no fear of heights, and I love wilderness style camping!"



Aaron Ahlquist has been a member of Touro Synagogue, along with his wife Elizabeth and children Brennan, Donovan and Claire, since moving to New Orleans in 2004. Aaron has served on the Jazz Fest Shabbat Committee for the past five years, and was a pitcher on Touro's Softball Team. He is excited and honored to be a newly elected board member, and looks forward to continuing the outstanding work of past board members and bringing his rolled up sleeves approach to the issues facing our incredible Touro community today. In his everyday life, Aaron is an attorney at Herman, Herman & Katz, where he focuses his work on mass tort litigation. Aaron's interests include: reading, hiking, tennis, good music, politics and travel.

Mazel Tov

On the birth of our 5775 babies

Jack Patteson Kullman, son of Read and Freddy Kullman, grandson of Ruth and Larry Kullman

Matthew Leonard Kupperman, son of Emily and Zachary Kupperman, grandson of Mara and Stephen Kupperman, great-grandson of Dorothy "Dotty" Jacobs

Jacob Max Bain, grandson of Joan and Elliot Bain

Annie Kay Reiss, daughter of Charlotte and Gary "Taavi" Reiss, sister of Abram Reiss

Cora Zwain, granddaughter of Jaymi and Mark Baum

Claire Simone Good, daughter of Caroline and Jeffrey Good, granddaughter of Susan and Louis Good, great granddaughter of Carol Good

Abraham Stanley Levine, son of Danielle and Vanessa Levine, brother of Louis Levine

Solomon Bernard Thorrick, son of Sarah and James Thorrick, brother of Isadore Thorrick

Robert Louis Wynne, son of Mallory Gershen Wynne and Douglass Freret Wynne Jr

Lila Sophia Theis, daughter of Laura Reeds and Peter Theis

Clark Duber Buchtel, son of Frannie and Charles Buchtel, brother to Audrey Buchtel, grandson of Laurie and Ricky Rosenberg, great-grandson of Esther Rosenberg

Lilia Marie Glazer, granddaughter of Jay Glazer, granddaughter of Diane Jacobson

Sienna Rose Lestelle, granddaughter of Andi and Terry Lestelle

Emma Rose Katz, daughter of Margeret and Jonathan Katz, sister to Cortlan and James Katz, granddaughter of Carole and Morton Katz

Victoria Rodrigalvarez, daughter of Elizabeth Herman and Luis Rodrigalvarez and sister to Sebastian Rodrigalvarez

A special Mazel Tov

To **Brian Friedman**, son of **Linda and Richard Friedman**, on the acceptance of his film "King of New Orleans" to film festivals this year in Memphis, New Orleans and Napa Valley.

To **Ellen Yellin**, on being selected for the 2015 Role Model Class at the YLC Role Model Awards Gala

To the 2015-16 JewCCY board,

President: Todd Hamilton (12th grade, Lusher, Touro)

Programming VP: Marlee Michaels (12th grade, Country Day, GOP)

Social Action VP: Sydney Gold (9th grade, Newman, Sinai)

Religious and Cultural VP: Hannah Gelman (10th grade, Ben Franklin, GOP)

Membership VP (Uptown): Chelsea Deitelzweig (10th grade, Ben Franklin, Touro)

Membership VP (Metairie): David Scharff (11th grade, Newman, GOP)

Communications VP

Treasurer: PJ Hamilton (11th grade, Lusher, Touro)

Secretary: Rebecca Kornman (10th grade, Ben Franklin, Sinai)



Welcome!

Touro Synagogue welcomes the following members who have joined our congregation in 5775:

Rebecca and Nathan Aronson and Benjamin Aronson

Judith Brown

Alexa and Robert Craig

Karen and David Curry and Parker Curry

Christopher Davis and Julia Strasser

Catherine Firestein and Joseph Avalos

Cecille and Gerald Friedler

Cheryll and Jack Goodman

Elizabeth Herman and Luis Rodrigalvarez and Sebastian Rodrigalvarez

Denise Hoffman

Paige and Andrew Katz and Daniel and Liam Katz

Margeret and Jonathan Katz and Cortlan, James, Emma Katz

Anne and Carey Kaufman and Eve and Clyde Kaufman

Richard Kovitz and Tim Anderson

Anne LaRock

Brian and Matthew Lister

Carol and Donald Markowitz and Samuel and Sadie Markowitz

Ariel and Christopher Merritt and Jude and Archer Merritt

Annette Petty

Miriam Roberts and Garrett Fine

Ilya Ryaboy and Jacqueline Heffernan

Gene Shapiro and William Murray

Lauren and Neal Shapiro

Todd Silverman

Barbara Smith

Rachel and Ward Bowron

Mauricio Torres

Daniel Turner

Linda Usdin

Touro Synagogue is Going Glamping!

Glamping is the glamorous version of camping! We have wonderful cabins available, or you can rough it in the traditional camp sites!

**Join us
March 11-13,
2016, at Tickfaw
State Park for an
unforgettable
weekend!
(with well
appointed cabins)**

Shabbat services, Shared meals, Canoeing, Hiking, Singing, Laughing, Playing & Havdalah

EVER CONSIDER JOINING TOURO SYNAGOGUE?

Talk to one of our board members or clergy or call the office about our revolutionary voluntary annual support system.

All are welcome!

We'd welcome the opportunity to talk to you about membership at Touro!

Call us at 504-895-4843

Please mark your calendars

Touro Synagogue

is pleased to present it's 25th Annual

JAZZ FEST SHABBAT

April 29th, 2016

SAVE THE DATE



As always, a Touro Synagogue highlight!

SHABBATI GRAS

Get your parade on!

BYOB



Shabbat Food

More details to come!

January 29 | February 5

Coming this Spring

Purim at Touro gets a little fuzzier... and Fozzier

PURIM SHPIEL
SUNDAY, MARCH 20TH

Calling actors, singers, pigs, frogs,
chickens and dancing bears of all ages!
Start getting ready for auditions for the
Purim Shpiel!

**For information on how to get
involved, contact Cantor Mintz or
Rabbi Silverman at
(504) 895-4843.**



Have a chat and a coffee with Rabbi Silverman

Parents, please join Rabbi Silverman in the
Mautner Learning Center to discuss the coming
Religious School year - curricula, programs and ideas.



Oct. 11: Grades 3 - 6
Nov. 1: Grades 7 - 10
Nov. 15: Grades Pre-K - 2
ALL SESSIONS BEGIN AT 9:15 A.M.

GIVE THE GIFT OF A JEWISH EDUCATION

HELP US ACHIEVE OUR NEW YEAR'S GOAL OF RAISING

\$5776.00

TO OFFSET SCHOLARSHIP REQUESTS

Many financial need requests are received each year for Religious School and Uptown Hebrew. We have several applications so far this year and are hopeful that your contribution will help us fund the requests. Please consider making a donation to sponsor a child's Jewish education. Sponsor one full tuition at \$436 or at any amount you can give.

Any generosity will help us achieve our goal, donate **\$57.76**. Even **\$5.76** helps!

Thank you.



Is your child in 9th, 10th or 11th grade?

Up to \$7,250 in matching funds will go to the first 20 high school students belonging to a participating New Orleans congregation who apply for an approved, immersive Israel travel experience in 2016.

Sign up now for the Edie and Paul Rosenblum Gift of Israel. Visit jewishnola.com/goi now.



Letter from the officers of Touro Synagogue Foundation

"The Foundation is organized and shall be operated exclusively for charitable, educational and religious purposes by conducting and supporting activities for the benefit of and to carry out the purposes of Touro Synagogue"

"The trustees of this Foundation shall be the nine (9) most recent competent living past presidents of Touro Synagogue who reside within 50 miles of the Synagogue"

"The most recent past presidents of Touro Synagogue shall be the officers"

In 2011 Touro Synagogue Foundation underwent a campaign, led by Larry Kullman, to increase our endowment. To date this campaign has added over \$1,500,000 to the fund.

These funds contribute to the operating budget annually to help defray the cost of operating and maintaining the synagogue. And they are overseen by Bill Norman who serves as Assistant Secretary / Advisor to the Foundation.

On behalf of the Officers of the Foundation, I would like to thank all of you who have pledged and either paid those pledges or are in the process of doing so. Your gift both strengthens Touro Synagogue for today and ensures a vibrant future.

To those congregants who have not contributed, it is not too late. And to those that have paid their pledge in full, please consider an additional gift to the Foundation. Let Kerry Tapia or an officer of the Foundation know if you would like to learn more about donations.

Again, thank you for supporting your Touro Synagogue Foundation.

Hal M. Shepard, Phyllis Z. Alltmont and Scott Silbert



March 11 - 13, 2016

SPEND A WEEKEND AT 3863 MORRISON ROAD IN UTICA

Climb the tower. Try your hand at arts & crafts.

Get behind the wheel of a boat, and more!

Family Camp programming is best suited for 1st-5th graders.

BUT DON'T WORRY!

Your 6th-8th graders will participate in NFTY's Junior Youth Weekend at HSJ during Family Camp.

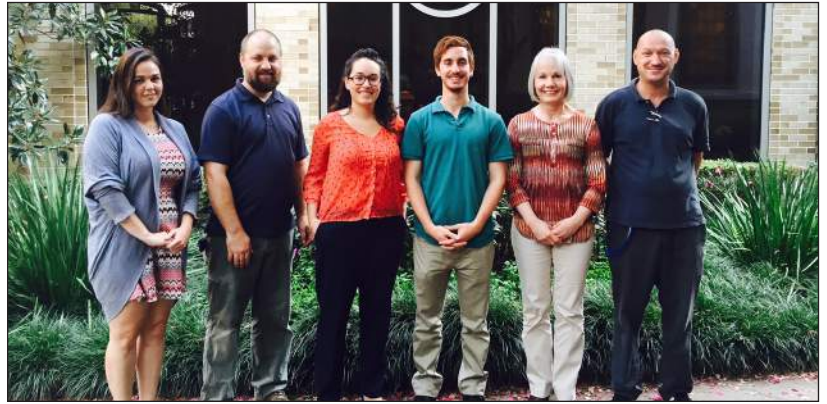
Brand new to camp? Veteran?

IT DOESN'T MATTER!

Family Camp is a great way to see old friends and make new ones! Come see HSJ in action!

Learn more at jacobs.urjcamps.org

Meet the staff at Touro



From left: Ashley, Ben, Annahi, Wil, Donna and Anthony in our beautiful Bowsky Garden

Ashley Pogue began at Touro in the summer of 2015 as the communications coordinator. Ashley works to publicize all events and help maintain the already strong community ties here at Touro. Ashley recently worked at The Advocate in Baton Rouge after working as a freelance graphic designer in Minneapolis, Minnesota. She received her Bachelor's Degree in Journalism with an emphasis in graphic design from Ball State University in Muncie, Indiana. The active and passionate congregation coupled with a close-knit and hard working team here at Touro has helped make Ashley feel right at home.

Ben Beasley has been at Touro part-time as our on-site contractor/carpenter/handyman since the summer of 2012. Ben owned a contracting company in Tennessee for many years and his expertise in carpentry has been invaluable over the last few years at the synagogue. Among many projects, Ben has worked on the chapel remodel in 2012 and reframed the entire stained glass window on the Bowsky Garden side of the sanctuary when we had our major termite problem in 2013. He enjoys working with his hands and doing what he can to keep our facility working and beautiful. He is currently a full-time student at UNO pursuing a degree in environmental science.

As the coordinator of Congregational life, **Annahi Tapia** is here to welcome congregants and visitors alike to the Touro community. Whether she is answering the phone, helping congregants with life cycle events, helping to plan and execute a program, or even cooking for the Friday night Shabbat dinner, Annahi is here to help you and make sure you have a great experience. Annahi Tapia has been on our Touro Synagogue staff team since November of 2014. Prior to that, she has worked in the customer service field. She can be seen at Touro during the work week, on Friday nights and during special events. Annahi looks forward to getting to know the entire Touro Synagogue family.

Wil Crary thrives in a communal setting, so for him, Touro Synagogue feels like a second home. As the Office and Religious School Assistant, he wears a slew of hats which allows him to engage many within our community. His passion for social justice through the scope of food security and education brought him and our lush hydroponic garden to Touro. He also spends time working for the non-profit that organizes New Orleans' premier farmers markets, so look no further for your local food specialist. Wil is here and happy to help.

Donna Provetera works as the Financial Assistant here at Touro Synagogue. Joining the staff in June of 1998 as Religious School Administrative Assistant has proven true the idiom, "Time flies when you are having fun." "Over the past 17 years I have worn, at one time or another, many different 'hats' in the administrative area of the office. These days, I am focused on accounts receivable and accounts payable and duties that are closely tied to them which include tracking the voluntary annual support pledges (dues), managing pulpit flowers and Shabbat dinner (oneg) sponsorships, memorial plaques, donations, Book of Remembrance, and yahrzeit lists. In 1998, as I was retiring from Harland after 24 years of service mostly in managing the administrative, billing and customer service areas, I wasn't sure if I would ever find another job that would be as challenging and that I would enjoy as much. But I did — at Touro Synagogue."

Anthony Jones works as the facilities manager at Touro Synagogue. He has lived in Uptown New Orleans for a number of years and has been remodeling and working property maintenance for some time in the area. Anthony enjoys seeing live music around the city, watching football and relaxing at 'The Fly' in Audubon Park. He is pleased to be part of Touro Synagogue.

Caring and Mitzvah

Caring & Mitzvah helps members of our congregation connect with each other. We've initiated a village program, so that we can become better acquainted with members who live near us. We offer mazel tovs when families are celebrating a simcha, and our sympathy and love when times are tough.

Thank you - to all those who have participated as givers as well as those who have graciously received. It takes courage to do both. We have appreciated baking, writing, and stopping by. And we know from the lovely responses, that you have enjoyed our visits, prayers, and offers of comfort.

Lisa Keleher
504-296-5472
lisatkeleher@gmail.com

Some of the things we've been working on:

Meal Trains



We have been happily cooking and delivering a few meals to families who recently welcomed new baby boys and girls. Such a nice way to connect with families in your village, and a much appreciated mitzvah!

Birthday Treats

We're still growing this wonderfully fun way to connect with fellow members. Contact Lisa Keleher to get involved with baking and delivering in your neighborhood.



Care Packages

Pre-assembled or home-baked gifts to bring a little comfort to those recovering from illness or surgery, or those who need some extra hugs in the form of challah and tea. (Please contact Touro's office if you know of a member who would appreciate receiving a care package or a call from our clergy.)



Friday Night Blessings

We are inviting members in advance to join us at Shabbat services on Friday night for the honor of lighting the candles and blessing over the wine.

Our Villages

We are making connections with members in our villages (geographically close Touro families) with our current activities. But we continue to brainstorm new ways of helping each other connect. If you have an idea or would like to join our coordinator team, please contact us!



Get involved at Touro!

The foundation of Touro's mission includes a deep commitment to promoting social justice. But what does that commitment really mean? And what responsibilities come with our prominent place in the history and geography of this city? A number of years ago, we intentionally asked ourselves those questions.

For us, the first steps were and continue to be creating opportunities for internal community education and reflection about issues at the forefront of contemporary, social concern. Our communal learning about and exploration of crucial, timely social concerns encourages collaborative reflection, advocacy, action, and a deeper awareness of human circumstances on countless fronts. All of our social action opportunities allow for one time and/or on-

going involvement.

We have focused on education, crime, hunger, homelessness, sex trafficking and recovery, LGBTQ civil rights and equality, and most recently, adding mass incarceration and mental health awareness and advocacy. With these initiatives in mind, Touro forged and now embraces on-going partnerships and alliances with many community organizations. We also have built and maintain an urban garden to help impact food insecurity in New Orleans.

We hope our actions and reflections are weaving webs of understanding and connectedness within and between our synagogue community and the greater New Orleans community. We offer in our actions with community partners a caring hand and a longing that our

companionship helps the most vulnerable in our community to feel value in their own humanity and hope in their futures. We are taught that it is through our relationships with each other, in how we treat, support, and interact with each other that we find and experience the sacred and the holy. We are taught that the only way through the wilderness is by joining hands and walking together.

We hope you will explore the Touro social action landscape on the following pages and find an initiative that will interest you. We very much look forward to your involvement. For more information about any of the initiatives or to find out how you can become involved, contact the person listed at the end of each initiative below or contact **Teri Hunter** at tlhunter22@gmail.com, chair of social action.

nourish



Touro Synagogue is committed to doing what we can to reduce food insecurity, which is shockingly common, in our Greater New Orleans community. As you know, we have supported Second Harvest Food Bank for years with our annual Yom Kippur food drive. And we support our neighborhood food pantry, the Broadmoor Food Pantry (BFP), with congregants, including religious school students, bringing non-perishable

foods to the Synagogue weekly for direct distribution to BFP. Please bring your non-perishable contributions to the Synagogue any time you are in the neighborhood or when you come for Shabbat services.

AND, our Pitt Street vertical garden, which was just getting off the ground one year ago, is bigger and better and continuing to grow fresh produce for distribution to BFP. Touro Grows! Come and see for yourselves.

If you are a master gardener, a weekday or weekend gardener, or just interested in providing healthy, fresh produce to those who need it most, we need you. If you are interested in harvesting (it's fun!) or in learning more about our on-going efforts to help feed the hungry, please contact Ann Fishman at dagadam@aol.com or **460-1049**.

LGBTQ ACTION

We are proud for Touro Synagogue and for our beloved Rabbi Berk to see her receive the Faith and Equality Award from the Forum for Equality on September 26, 2015. The award is given to individuals who are working to build a state of equality in Louisiana. Together, we join Reform Jews across the country in celebrating the recent Supreme Court decision on marriage equality. President Obama celebrated the decision as well, commenting that "there are days like this when that slow, steady effort is rewarded with justice that arrives like a thunderbolt." We at Touro Synagogue have been a part of that slow, steady effort. Continue the effort with us on Wednesday, October 14 when we will gather for dinner and discussion about our agenda and goals for the year. Please RSVP so we can appropriately plan for dinner. \$10 suggested donation per person, and all are welcome.

Contact laura.silven.levy@gmail.com for questions, comments or to RSVP.

Mental Health Awareness

Inspired by the Yom Kippur sermon Rabbi Berk gave last year about the stigma of mental illness and our responsibility to be more aware of mental health challenges, Touro now has a committee dedicated to broadening our congregation's mental health awareness and helping improve access to better mental health care. We have a database of mental health and behavioral health service providers so our clergy can better assist members who seek help. We also have established a page on our website with important mental health resources at: <https://toursynagogue.com/community/mental-health-awareness/>

Our programming for the coming year began with a special Selichot program at the synagogue, featuring a screening of the documentary "Anonymous People" followed by a discussion of the challenges of addiction and recovery. A panel discussion was led by Touro members John Antonucci and Dan Forman along with Dr. José Calderón-Abbo. We also will join together as a congregation and walk in National Alliance on Mental Illness NAMIWalks fundraising walk around Audubon Park on October 24. New Birth Brass Band, former WWL-TV anchorwoman, Angela Hill, and Orleans Parish Coroner Dr. Jeffrey Rouse will lead the festivities. Please support us or join the team by visiting our team page at www.namiwalks.nami.org/touro.

Please contact David Hammer at hammer.david@rocketmail.com with any questions or for more information or to find out how you can get involved with Touro's Mental Health Awareness Initiative.

VIP Mardi Gras Balcony

"My three favorite days of the year are my birthday, Christmas and the day I get to go to Touro Synagogue to watch parades." That's a direct quote from one of the many special needs children who benefits from the VIP Balcony.

VIP Balcony is a special needs accessible balcony at Touro built for and provided free of charge to children (and sometimes adults) with special needs and their families in the New Orleans community during some Mardi Gras parades. Food, entertainment, and friendship are a part of these extraordinary parade experiences.

Want to help with this mitzvah? Save these dates:

Help build the viewing stands, Tuesday, January 26 starting at 5:30. No building experience needed.

Help host the children on the stands on the days the stands are open for this purpose: Saturday January 30 Krewe of Ponchartrain.

Thursday, February 4 starting at 5:45--Babylon, Chaos, Muses

Saturday, February 6, starting at 11—Iris and Tucks.

Contact Hal Shepard to learn more or offer to help. Contact Juan Gershanik if you know of a child (or adult) who could benefit from this special opportunity.

The Social Action Wheel: Be the Change You Wish to See in the World!

Many of us are concerned about issues of social justice, but not sure how to take action that will effect true change. In this workshop, we will use the "social action wheel" to think about the ways - as individuals and a community - we might move from direct service (feeding homeless people, for example) to a variety of community-engaged actions (e.g. advocacy, education) to create a more just world. All adults are welcome to discussion. Contact info@tourosynagogue.com with any questions. Please RSVP with number attending by Dec. 7.

December 13, 2015
9:15-11:15am

Harry Thompson Rebuild Center

Michelle Obama recently congratulated New Orleans on successful efforts to resolve the problem of homeless veterans in our city. However, while great strides have been made, there are still approximately 700 chronically homeless residents living in our streets, shelters and abandoned buildings on a typical day. Exemplary is Johnnie Suer, who was found living in a van while undergoing treatment for a brain tumor. Touro Synagogue has an ongoing partnership with the Harry Tomson Rebuild Center, which provides invaluable services to its guests such as showers, laundry, meals, phone service, as well as counseling, medical and legal assistance and permanent housing placement. There are many ways to become involved with this warm, loving and very special place, all of which are infinitely rewarding.



Among the Center's needs are the following:

- Assistance with preparing and serving meals. New this year is a breakfast service which is prepared and served solely by volunteers.

- Mental health professionals to provide on-going and/or periodic mental health services.

- Community mentors for guests who have been recently placed in housing.

- Donation of books for the library, and periodic assistance with organization of the library.

- Donation of unopened travel-size hygiene supplies.

Please contact Julie Silbert at Julie.silbert@keanmiller.com or Naomi Yavneh at yavneh@loyno.edu if you are interested in becoming involved.

Eden House

Eden House is a residence/program for women who are recovering from sex and human trafficking. It is a safe home where women come to heal, learn, and rehabilitate for a better future. They have nothing to call their own when they arrive at Eden House.



These items are used to create a welcome basket that Touro lovingly provides to new residents of Eden House.

Please consider donating items such as:

toothpaste • brushes • shampoo • conditioner • soap • body lotion •
towels • any personal care items.



It is our way of welcoming them to a home that will be their place of belonging and growth. **Contact tlhunter22@gmail.com with any questions.**

The Loyola Honors Community: Scholars for Justice in the Heart of New Orleans

Touro Social Action proudly works in interfaith partnership with the Loyola University Honors Program, which draws on Loyola's Jesuit identity through a rigorous curriculum that encourages both critical thinking about the great questions of the past and engagement with the essential challenges of the present and future.

As a community, the UHP seeks to pursue truth, wisdom and virtue, preparing students – whatever their career paths – to lead meaningful lives with and for others and to work for a more just world. In addition to supporting the synagogue's community action activities, Honors invites the Touro community to join them in their own engagement partnerships, including ACT and subject tutoring for high school students from disadvantaged backgrounds and reading programs for elementary students. They will also call upon Touro members to join in support of their other community initiatives (such as their annual feminine hygiene drive for homeless women).

Members of the UHP can frequently be seen at Touro babysitting, gardening, entertaining the Krewe of VIPs at Mardi Gras, or attending services. Please say hi and introduce yourself! For more information, please contact Naomi Yavneh Klos, University Honors Program Director and Touro board member, at **504-864-7330** or yavneh@loyno.edu.

Weekend of Peace

Once again we will be collecting gently used clothing and household items for our friends at Masjid ur-Rahim to distribute at their annual Weekend of Peace community event. If you have ever been to this wonderful event, which also offers free health screenings and a hot meal to those in need in our city, you know what an honor it is to be able to contribute. The event will be held on Saturday, January 16, and we will begin taking drop-offs at Touro in January. Please start saving items to donate!



Yom Kippur Food Drive

Each year, Touro members help replenish the shelves of the local food bank with hundreds of pounds of groceries. Help fight food insecurity in New Orleans by bringing a bag of groceries with you to the Yom Kippur morning service on September 23. We encourage each Touro family to provide food for a comparable size family in need.

Please remember that only non-perishable foods are accepted.

Thank you for helping with this very important effort.

Sophie B Wright School

In the spring of 2009, Touro Synagogue entered into a partnership with our neighborhood school, Sophie B. Wright Charter School. Since then, our members have been involved in advocacy with Sophie B. Wright to get the funding needed to renovate their school building. Partnership activities will continue while they are in temporary housing in the Hollygrove neighborhood through the end of the 2015-16 school year. Our support is even more important than it has been in recent years as they try to maintain high morale and motivation in an unfamiliar neighborhood riddled with its own problems. Still they had roughly 50 seniors graduate in May, with those students earning over \$2,218,000 of scholarship money not including TOPS. Touro's support of the students and their faculty helped to positively impact those numbers.



Here is how you can help:

- Donate \$5 Canes gift cards. These gift cards are distributed as student incentives. These cards can be dropped off at the Touro office.
 - Several times a year, Touro provides teacher appreciation snacks. It's an easy mitzvah and a meaningful gift to the faculty. Contact Sam Guichet at volunteer@touro synagogue.com if you are interested in offering a simple treat.
 - Send a check into Touro's office and earmark it SBW, we'll take it from there with much gratitude.
 - In partnership with the Loyola University Honors Program, Touro helps support SBW students as they prepare for ACT testing and college prep.
- Interested in helping? Contact Teri Hunter at tlhunter22@gmail.com.

Broadmoor Food Pantry

Helping **595** households
Distributing more than **5 tons** of food

Touro has partnered with the Broadmoor Food Pantry to fill in the gaps which include:

- fresh produce • canned meats • peanut butter • breakfast foods
- sugar • coffee • cooking oil • flour • healthy snacks



Donations can be dropped off at Touro or directly at the food pantry at 2021 S. Dupre St. which is open on Mondays from 10:00am-12:00pm and Wednesdays from 1:00p.m. -3:30pm. For information about The Broadmoor Food Pantry contact Anamaria Villamarin-Lupin at anamariavl@live.com.

BECOME A TOURO STORYTELLER

"Our tours have been a wonderful way to tell visitors our rich history and share with them the many beautiful aspects of our sanctuary and chapel. As the oldest congregation outside the original 13 colonies and the sixth oldest congregation in the country, we have a wonderful tale to tell. In addition, our benefactor, Judah Touro, was an enigmatic and very private man who became one of the most generous Jewish philanthropists in the U.S. at the time."

Wouldn't you like to know more about Judah and his famous will? Adie Genet is holding storytelling training sessions for Touro docents. Contact the office 895-4843 to sign up.

TOURO WALKS

Touro walks as a congregation in several community walks each year. We hope you will mark your calendars and plan to join us in these fun, easy, and relational mitzvot.

NO/AIDS Walk: NO/AIDS Task Force is the oldest HIV/AIDS service organization in the Gulf South. It was founded in 1983 in response to the early devastating effects of the AIDS epidemic in the New Orleans area. For over 30 years, NO/AIDS Task Force has been providing hope, care and compassion to thousands of men, women and families affected by HIV & AIDS. NO/AIDS offers a full spectrum of care at low to no cost, including services such as: an HIV medical clinic, food pantry, home delivered meals, housing, mental health, peer support and many others. NO/AIDS also remains committed to the health of our entire community and reaches over 20,000 each year through HIV prevention education efforts. This year's NO/AIDS Walk will be held on Saturday, September 26, 2015 along the traditional Uptown route.

Walk to End Alzheimer's: Every 67 seconds someone in the United States develops Alzheimer's disease. More than 5 million Americans are currently living with the disease. The Alzheimer's Association Walk to End Alzheimer's® is the world's largest event to raise awareness and funds for Alzheimer's care, support and research. This year's Walk to End Alzheimer's will be held on Saturday, November 14, 2015 at La Salle Park (behind Zephyr Stadium).

NAMI Walk: The New Orleans Chapter of the National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI) offers hope, help, and healing to people with mental illness - and to those who share their lives - through family support, education and advocacy, and quality psychosocial services. We will join together as a congregation and participate in National Alliance on Mental Illness fundraising walk around Audubon Park on Oct. 24. Former WWL-TV anchorwoman, Angela Hill, and Orleans Parish Coroner Dr. Jeffrey Rouse will lead the festivities. Please support us or join the team by visiting <http://tinyurl.com/qa673wt>.

Light The Night: The Leukemia & Lymphoma Society's Light The Night® Walk funds research to find cures and ensure access to treatments for all blood cancer patients. The New Orleans area walk is Thursday, Nov 5, 2015 at 5:30 pm at Lafreniere Park (3000 Downs Blvd., Metairie, LA 70003). Touro members can register as individuals to participate...or they are invited to join with many other Touro members who walk as a part of Team Sessions. Team Sessions has raised \$100,000 over the past four years! For more information: <http://pages.lightthenight.org/msla/NOOrleans15>.



Mass Incarceration

In the last 35 years, the number of U.S. citizens in prison has risen from 330,000 to approximately 2.3 million. Studies report that Louisiana has the highest per capita incarceration rate in the world.

As a congregation, we are conversing about the social, political and economic implications of mass incarceration. Please join us as we continue our examination of this critically important issue through speakers, discussion groups and reading groups, with a particular emphasis on the issue of sentencing reform. Those interested in taking action on this issue should be aware of our upcoming partnership with The First 72 Plus, a program providing re-entry support and housing for those recently released from prison.

For questions contact Dani Levine: dlevine@avodah.net, Julie Silbert: julie.silbert@keanmiller.com or Naomi Yavneh: yavneh@loyno.edu

First 72+

Last year, Touro Synagogue's 7/8th grade religious school class had a fundraiser for The First 72+, an organization that helps formerly incarcerated individuals transition and become independent members of our society.

Touro has begun a partnership with The First 72+. We will offer resident support through tutoring, mentoring, and teaching life skills (e.g. managing personal finances). Material donations also are needed and can be dropped off at Touro. Donations needed include:

- Men's clothes
- Shaving and bathing supplies
- Cleaning supplies
- Paper products
- Monetary donations can also be made to Touro to support this partnership.



Anything will help and be greatly appreciated. Please contact

JaredGlassman@gmail.com for further information or to find out how you can become involved. You can visit The First 72+ website at www.first72plus.org for more information on the organization. Please stay tuned for updates about our partnership activities.

New Orleans Crime Coalition

Touro Synagogue serves as a participating member of the New Orleans Crime Coalition. The New Orleans Crime Coalition (NOCC) includes fifteen community organizations working together to reform our local criminal justice system. The coalition works to address violent crime in New Orleans by engaging and helping integrate all components of the local criminal justice system, identifying best practices and holding accountable those responsible for implementing such practices at each and every level.

The Crime Coalition meets monthly and Dr. Jay Shames is the Touro representative on NOCC. The results of its bi-annual Citizen Perception of NOPD Survey were just released and discussed by the Coalition. Touro Synagogue hosted Juvenile and Criminal Court Candidates Forum October 22, 2014. For more information, on NOCC, their focus, and opportunities for involvement, please contact Jay Shames (jay.shames@att.net).



*A special thank you to our Patrons who offer
voluntary annual support beyond a sustaining level.
We are deeply grateful for your heartfelt generosity
upon which we rely and from which
Touro Synagogue benefits.*

PATRON MEMBERS

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