

Gems At The J

COMMUNITY, LEARNING & WELLBEING



Gems Kaiserman JCC
Philly J

Early Fall* 2026 Program

**This season, the JCC will be transitioning to a new website portal. Because of this transition, our Fall 2 classes will not have registration until early October. You can see a list of all programs coming soon at the end of this booklet.*

TABLE OF CONTENTS ★

Clubs	2	Trips	5
History	3	Volunteer	6
Judaism	3	Wellness	6
Arts & Creativity	4-5	Coming Soon	8

CLUBS ★

Clubs are free to join with a suggested yearly donation of \$36.



Open Play Canasta

Every Monday
1PM - 3PM



Open Play Mah Jong

Every Thursday
1PM - 3PM



Book Club

9/30 • 10/28 • 12/2
3PM - 4PM



Canasta Welcome Back Lunch

Monday, September 14 | 12PM - 1PM | \$25

Come join us as we kick off the New Year with our Canasta Community! Canasta game play will start at 1pm.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/canasta-lunch



Mahjong Welcome Back Lunch

Thursday, October 1 | 12PM - 1PM | \$25

Come join us as we welcome in the New Year with our MahJong Community! Lunch will be from 12-1pm, MahJong play will start at 1pm.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/mahjong-lunch



Canasta Lessons

4 Mondays, September 28-October 19 | 1PM - 2:30PM | \$85

Canasta is a fun, fast-paced card game of strategy and teamwork. This class is for beginners, who have never played before.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/fall-canasta



Mahjong Lessons

4 Thursdays, October 29 - November 19 | 1PM - 2:30PM | \$85

Join our engaging classes to learn the rules, strategies, and social fun of this classic tile game. This class is for beginners who have never played.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/fall-mahjong

HISTORY ★



September Tech Savvy Seniors

Monday, September 28 | 4:15PM - 5:15PM | Free

Begin with a short lesson on tech, followed by time for assistance.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/sept-tech



Political Affairs with Dr. Bill Rosenberg

5 Thursdays, October 1-November 11 | 11:15AM-12:15PM | \$75

Discuss topics such as Israel, the ADL, Antisemitism, the Midterm Elections and more. No Class: 10/8, 10/22, 11/5

Register online at phillyjcc.com/fall-pa



Talk About the Elections with Dr. Matt Kerbel

Tuesday, October 13 | 10:30AM - 11:30AM | \$15

What does the electoral landscape look like as Election Day approaches?

Register online at phillyjcc.com/oct-election



October Tech Savvy Seniors

Monday, September 28 | 4:15PM - 5:15PM | Free

Begin with a short lesson on tech, followed by time for assistance.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/oct-tech

JUDAISM ★



September Cholent & Conversations

Friday, September 4 | 12:15PM - 1:15PM | \$5

Meet with our own Rabbi Moriah as we discuss the High Holidays

Register online at phillyjcc.com/hhcholent



October Cholent & Conversations

Friday, October 2 | 12:15PM - 1:15PM | \$5

Meet with a local Rabbi as we discuss Sukkot.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/sukkotcholent



Intro to Yiddish on Zoom with Rikva Blum

10 Sundays, October 4 - December 6 | 11AM -12PM | \$72

Explore basic words, phrases, and expressions in this Zoom Program.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/yiddish



Jewish Philadelphia with Dr. Michael Schatz

3 Wednesdays, October 14 -28 | 12:45PM -2PM | \$45

Explore the Jewish population throughout the history of Philadelphia!

Register online at phillyjcc.com/philly-jews/

ARTS & CREATIVITY ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



The Magic of Lincoln Center with Leila Joffe

3 Tuesdays, September 15-29 | 11:15AM - 12:15PM | \$36

We will take an in-depth look at the magic of Lincoln Center Theater. Examine clips from some of their most iconic musicals and plays and learn the history of how the theater and stars!

Register online at phillyjcc.com/lincoln-center



Mosaic Chamsas with Rabbi Gila Ruskin

Monday, September 28 | 11AM - 1PM | \$25

Create your own original chamsa with local mosaic artist, Rabbi Gila Ruskin. We provide materials, but please bring small objects to personalize your amulet design. An ancient Middle Eastern symbol for prosperity and health, sometimes called the Hand of Miriam or the Hand of Fatima.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/chamsas



Back-to-School Movies with Ruth Anolik

4 Mondays, October 5-26 | 10:45AM - 1PM | \$40

We will start each session with an introduction the film with light refreshments, screen the film and then finish up with a discussion. Explore films such as *Clueless*, *School Ties*, *The Chosen*, and *A Serious Man*

Register online at phillyjcc.com/school-movies



The Dawn of Human Art with Dr Steve

2 Tuesdays, October 6 & 20 | 10AM - 11AM | \$30

This lecture takes us on a journey to three of these remarkable sites: Font de Gaume, Lascaux, and Chauvet. The images you will see we can relate to; however, can we relate to why these images existed at such a distant time in our human cultural history?

Register online at phillyjcc.com/cave-art



Greatest of The West End with Leila Joffe

4 Tuesdays, October 20-November 11 | 11:15AM - 12:15PM | \$48

Explore some of the greatest musical theater performers from the UK. We will highlight exceptional talents such as Julie Andrews, Michael Ball, Elaine Paige, Michael Crawford, and other great performers.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/west-end

ARTS & CREATIVITY CONTINUED ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★ ★



Expressive Strokes at JFCS

Tuesday, October 20 | 12PM - 2PM | \$5

This supportive art therapy program in partnership with JFCS provides participants with a creative space to express themselves, reduce stress, and build meaningful connections. **This program is at JFCS!**

Register online at phillyjcc.com/oct-art



October Zentangle with Mindy Shapiro

Thursday, October 22 | 11AM - 12:45PM | \$18

Decorate Fall Decor in this relaxing, creative, meditative and quite fun workshop, you will learn 4-6 basic Zentangle patterns.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/oct-zen

TRIPS ★



Japanese Tea House Tour

Thursday, September 17 | 10:30AM - 1PM | \$40

**INCLUDES
TRANSPORTATION!**

Come and explore the Japanese Tea House in Fairmont Park. We will have a tour of the house and then enjoy a tea tasting. Must wear socks.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/tea-house



Fort Mifflin Tour

Wednesday, September 30 | 10AM - 2PM | \$60

**INCLUDES LUNCH &
TRANSPORTATION!**

Experience history first-hand during our walking tour at National Historic Landmark Fort Mifflin – one of the only intact Revolutionary War battlefields and the only fort in Philadelphia!

Register online at phillyjcc.com/fortmifflin



Just In Time on Broadway NYC

Wednesday, October 7 | 8:30AM - 7PM | \$205

**INCLUDES
TRANSPORTATION!**

Don't miss the "utterly electrifying" new musical that brings to life the story of Bobby Darin, the legendary singer whose short but remarkable journey took him from teen idol to global sensation.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/justintime



The Charms of Fairmont Park

3 Fridays, October 9-23 | 9:15AM - 1:00PM | \$90

**INCLUDES
TRANSPORTATION!**

Come for 3 weekly tours of The Charms of Fairmont Park including Strawberry Mansion, Lural Hill Mansion, and Woodford Mansion and learn about the stories that helped shaped the history of Philadelphia.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/fairmount

VOLUNTEER ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



September Mitzvah Time at JFCS

Wednesday, September 9 | 11AM - 1PM | Free

We will volunteer in the JFCS kitchen to use your culinary skills to make food to other organizations for distribution to those in need!

Register online at phillyjcc.com/jfcs-sept



October Mitzvah Time at JFCS

Wednesday, October 14 | 11AM - 1PM | Free

We will volunteer in the JFCS kitchen to use your culinary skills to make food to other organizations for distribution to those in need!

Register online at phillyjcc.com/jfcs-oct



September Preschool Storytime

Monday, September 28 | 2PM - 3PM | Free

Come read with our youngest JCC members in the RJW Preschool! Bring your favorite book or pick from their classroom libraries.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/sept-story



October Preschool Storytime

Monday, October 26 | 2PM - 3PM | Free

Come read with our youngest JCC members in the RJW Preschool! Bring your favorite book or pick from their classroom libraries.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/oct-story

Many more wellness opportunities are listed on our website.

WELLNESS ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



Tai Chi with Allyn Milner

5 Wednesday, September 16-October 14 | 11:30AM-12:30PM | \$60

Learn the easy, flowing set of moves and a graceful sequence of arm and body movements coordinated with breathing.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/fall-taichi



September Learn & Lite Bites

Tuesday, September 8 | 12PM - 1:15PM | Free

Focus on preventing falls at home and in the community. Identify and reduce environmental fall risks to help keep you safe and steady.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/sept2026lab



September ARTZ Philly Side-By-Side at the JCC

4 Thursdays, September 24 - November 5 | 10:30AM - 12PM | Free

Designed to support people living with dementia and their care partners through art, music, and creative connection.

Register online at phillyjcc.com/fallartz

Our Gems hub at the Kaiserman JCC inspires older adults to live independently, actively and involved, through programs and activities that enhance wellbeing, promote engagement, and foster community.

No membership is required to join our programs.

Policies

Virtual Option

Many programs have a virtual option upon request. If you are homebound and would like to join via Zoom, please email us.

Registration

Registration is required for all programs. Register online by card or by calling the front desk at (610)896-7770. Email us to pay by check or cash.

Cancellation

If you are unable to attend a program, please contact us as soon as possible. When appropriate, Gems will issue a credit, not a refund.

Prorated Programs

Looking to come to just one or a few classes in a series? We may have options for you! Email us for a prorated rate.

Thank you to our sponsors!

**Weinberg Family Fund of the Jewish Federation
of Greater Philadelphia**

The Ginsburg Family Charitable Fund

For sponsorship opportunities email gems@phillyjcc.com

Questions? Contact us!

Gems Program Manager

Rachel Sakofs | rachel@phillyjcc.com
(610) 896-7770 x130

Director of Health & Wellness

Jamie Feinstein | jamie@phillyjcc.com
(610) 896-7770 x110

Gems Kaiserman JCC
Philly 

45 Haverford Rd
Wynnewood, PA 19096