



URJ Biennial is Coming to Chicago!... And You Won't Want to Miss It

Back in Chicago for the first time in over 30 years, the URJ Biennial is headed to your area! It's never been easier to be a part of the biggest and most exciting Jewish gathering in North America—now just a short drive from home.



"The feeling of connectedness is what brings me back to Biennial again and again. It recharges my spiritual batteries every time I go."

—Toni L., five-time Biennial attendee

What's It All About? Join with 5,000 Reform Jews for jam-packed days filled with spirited worship, cutting-edge learning sessions, countless networking opportunities, world-class entertainment, and so much more. Check out the full schedule at URJBiennial.org.

Chicago Benefits As a Chicagoland resident, you can take full advantage of the entire amazing program without the added travel expenses. Or, join us for Chicago Shabbat, a full day of Biennial Shabbat programming.

Flexible Registration Options Attend all five days (Weds-Sun) or capitalize on three-day options (Weds-Fri or Fri-Sun).

- Early Bird (Until Oct 16): Wed-Sun: \$835 • Wed-Fri or Fri-Sun: \$550
- Regular (Oct 16- Dec 6): Wed-Sun: \$935 • Wed-Fri or Fri-Sun: \$625
- Saturday, December 14: full day including Torah study, Shabbat services, afternoon programming, havdallah and evening entertainment \$100

Biennial Extensions Join us for sessions exploring Jewish education, gender and justice in the Jewish community, and mobilizing our movement around Israel. These sessions are open to the entire Chicago community.

Recruit Your Congregation A ready-to-use delegation marketing toolkit makes it easy to encourage others to join you. Invite your congregation's members, board, up-and-coming lay leaders, teens, young adults, synagogue professionals, educators, cantors, and rabbis. Find it at URJBiennial.org/Recruitment-Tools

Do All Your Hanukkah Shopping Browse through more than 150 artisans, Israel travel operators, Jewish publishers, and more in the Exhibit Hall. Open Wednesday–Friday.

Teen and College Opportunities There are multiple options for teens and college students to participate, including special programming, unique internships, and offsite trips.



URJ BIENNIAL 2019
DECEMBER 11 - 15 • CHICAGO, IL

URJBiennial.org #URJBiennial

URJ Biennial Program Highlights

Saturday, December 14, 2019

8:30–9:45 AM | Torah Study

- **Birth of a Nation in a Tough Neighborhood** with Rabbi Meir Azari
- **Does the world we live in still stand on three things?** with Rabbi Ofek Meir
- **Fight, Flight or Find: Strategies for Survival** with Reuven Marko
- **How is life in Israel like strawberries?** with Anat Hoffman
- **Jacob and Esau—The Soundtrack of Conflict** with Shani Ben Or
- **Judaism in Israel—Between the extremes and the wide range of expressions** with Nir Barkin
- **Panim el Panim—Face to Face: Finding God through Israel** with Rabbi Steve Burnstein
- **The Reuben Sandwich, Amalek and me'—Censorship and Self Criticism in Parashat Vayishlach** with Cantor Evan Cohen

10:00 AM–12:30 PM | Shabbat Morning Services

Rabbi Stacy Friedman, Cantor Bradley Hyman, and Cantor Elizabeth Sacks

1:45–3:00 PM | Shabbat Afternoon Sessions

- **The Color of Love** with Marra Gad, and Rabbi Jonah Pesner
- **A Jewish Journey in the White House and Beyond** with Sarah Hurwitz
- **A Saxophone in the Enchanted Forest** with Rabbi Karyn Kedar, and Alden Solovy
- **ACC Concert: Building Bridges—Making Peace**
- **Architecture as Message & Memory: Honoring Victims and Sacred Spaces** with Michael Arad
- **Can We Talk About Gender and Judaism?: The Promise of Equity in the Reform Movement** with Rabbi Carole Balin

- **Extraordinary Jews** with Rich Cohen
- **Persistence, Hope, and Pride: Reflections at a Time of Peril and Possibility for LGBTQ Jews** with Idit Klein
- **The Challenges and Opportunities for Jewish Pluralism in Israel** with Rabbi Gilad Kariv
- **The Grateful Jew** with A.J. Jacobs
- **Will You Still Need Me When I'm 64? (or 74? or 84?)** with Marc Freedman, and Rabbi Laura Geller

3:30–4:45 PM | Shabbat Afternoon Sessions

- **Moral Resistance and Spiritual Authority: Our Jewish Obligation to Social Justice** with Rabbi Seth Limmer, Rabbi Jonah Pesner, and Rabbi Rachel Greengrass
- **So Is Life Concert** with Cantor Ellen Dreskin, So Is Life, Dan Nichols, Cantor Rosalie Will, and Josh Nelson
- **The Clergy Monologues** with Rabbi Ellen Weinberg Dreyfus, Rabbi Hara Person, and Rabbi Amy Schwartzman
- **The Last Laugh** with Ferne Pearlstein
- **Hanukkah Treats** with Tina Wasserman
- **6 Points Shabbat Experience** with leaders from the URJ's 6 Points Arts, Sci-Tech, and Sports camps

8:00 PM–10:00 PM | Closing Plenary & Havdalah

Elana Arian, Dan Nichols, Walt Whitman and the Soul Children of Chicago, Deborah Lipstadt, the comedians from The Second City, and a closing song session

10:15 PM–11:30 PM | Late Night Entertainment

Altar EGO by Patty Linsky and Nefesh Mountain



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