

**32nd ANNUAL**

**JE****ISH**  
**FILMFEST**  
OF EASTERN CT

**Presented by**

**THE JEWISH FEDERATION OF  
EASTERN CONNECTICUT**

**In association with  
The Garde Arts Center**



**February 22 - April 19, 2026**



RACHEL O. LEVY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

SCOTT WOLFE, PRESIDENT

Dear Film Enthusiasts,

Thank you for attending the 32nd Annual Jewish FilmFest of Eastern Connecticut. On behalf of the Federation, and in partnership with The Garde Arts Center, I'd like to welcome you.

JFEC's Jewish FilmFest is where our community unites. Through the power of the big screen, we continue to explore new perspectives on global Jewish life, historic events, Israel and the vital social justice issues of today. Carrying on this tradition, we hope to foster tolerance, understanding and a whole lot of community pride.

Our impact goals this year:

- **Provide** crisis intervention—including food, clothing, and other essential needs—through referrals, advocacy, and access to benefits.
- **Support** refugees by providing financial counseling, translation services, and assistance with employment and housing.
- **Combat** hate and antisemitism through educational workshops for more than 1,200 middle and high school students in Eastern CT.
- **Partner** with the Secure Community Network and a Regional Security Advisor to ensure safety at all community gatherings.
- **Expand** our Friendly Visitor program to deliver holiday packages to older adults in our community.
- **Engage** the youngest members of our community through PJ Library gatherings for children ages 0–8.
- **Strengthen** our Living Bridge with Israel through our Partnership Program with Afula Gilboa.

Together, we remain committed to strengthening Jewish life, supporting all those in need, regardless of religion, and building a safer, more connected community for all.

Sincerely,

*Rachel Levy*

Executive Director

400 NEW LONDON TPKE, NORWICH, CT 06360-5337 | 860-442-8062 | WWW.JFEC.COM



## Committee

### Chair

Loretta Levy

## Committee Members

Barry Feldman  
Myra Gipstein  
Steve Kaufman  
Gail Leaser  
Ron Leaser

Romana Strochlitz Primus  
Aaron Rosenberg  
Eileen Shapiro  
Scott Wolfe

## Staff

Rachel Levy, Marcia Reinhard, Rebecca Reinhard

## ***Jewish Federation of Eastern Connecticut***

400 New London Tpke, Norwich, CT 06360 | 860-442-8062

**Scott Wolfe**, *President*

**Rachel Levy**, *Executive Director*

**Marcia Reinhard**, *Assistant Director*

**office@jfec.com | www.JFEC.com**

**The Jewish Federation of Eastern Connecticut** is a local, not-for-profit organization that supports humanitarian, social service, cultural and educational efforts in Eastern Connecticut, in Israel and around the world. Locally, it provides direct services to seniors, adults and youth through a variety of programs and activities.

As part of its educational efforts, the Federation works with public, private, and parochial schools to promote the study of the Holocaust and the importance of taking individual responsibility for one's actions.

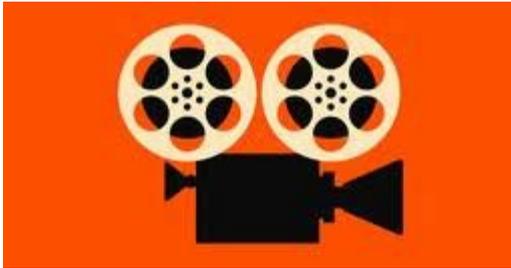
The JFEC is a member agency of the United Way of Southeastern Connecticut.

# SAYET & SEDER

Attorneys at Law

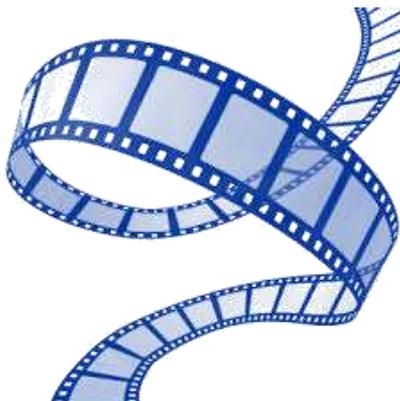
**BART A. SAYET**

*Best wishes for a  
successful Jewish FilmFest*

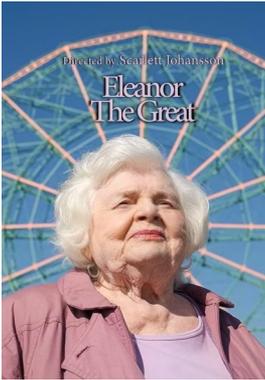


**Harry Leiser**

**Is a proud sponsor of  
the Jewish FilmFest!**



## Movie Lineup



### ELEANOR THE GREAT

Sunday, February 22, 3:00pm

United States, 2025, Drama/Comedy/War,  
English/Yiddish, 98 minutes

June Squibb brings to vivid life the witty and proudly troublesome 94-year-old Eleanor Morgenstein, who, after a devastating loss, tells a tale that takes on a dangerous life of its own. Scarlett Johansson's directorial debut is a comically poignant exploration of how the stories we hear become the stories we tell. **\*Opening Reception\***



### NUREMBERG

Sunday, March 8, 3:00pm

US/Hungary, 2025, Biography/Drama/  
History/Thriller/War, English/German, 148  
minutes

**NUREMBERG** chronicles the eponymous trials held by the Allied Forces against the defeated Nazi regime. The film will center on American psychiatrist Douglas Kelley, who is tasked with determining whether Nazi prisoners are fit to stand trial for their war crimes and finds himself in a complex battle of wits with Hermann Göring, Hitler's right-hand man.

**Best Wishes for the  
continued success of the  
Jewish FilmFest**

**Carol Curland**



*Attorney*

**Richard J. Pascal, LLC**

**Business Law | Tax Law  
Corporate Litigation  
Employment Law  
Corporate Transactions**

82 Chelsea Harbor Drive  
Norwich, CT 06360

860-886-0266

[rpascal@attorneypascal.com](mailto:rpascal@attorneypascal.com)



**Scott & Barbara Wolfe**

*Great job Lori Levy,  
Steve & Jeanne Sigel!*



## Movie Lineup



### HOLDING LIAT

Sunday, March 22, 3:00pm

US/Israel, 2025, Documentary/Drama,  
English/Hebrew, 97 minutes

On the morning of October 7, 2023, Israeli-American Liat Atzili and her husband Aviv were at home when Hamas attacked their kibbutz. By nightfall, Liat and Aviv are captives in Gaza along with 250 other people - 12 of whom, like Liat, are American citizens. Through the intimate lens of a family's experience, **HOLDING LIAT** poses complex questions of identity across generations, as the family is thrust into the epicenter of a global conflict rapidly unfolding in real-time.

**\*Talk Back with Liat's father, Yahuda Beinon and Film Producer Lance Kramer following screening\***



### MIDAS MAN

Sunday, April 12, 3:00pm

United Kingdom, 2024, Biography/Drama/  
Music, English, 112 minutes

**MIDAS MAN** is the first, last and most respectful filmic portrait ever painted of Brian Epstein. From an original story, **MIDAS MAN** tells the personal tale of a man who struggled to find his place in the world. Brian Epstein is recognized today as the man who signed amongst others: The Beatles, Gerry and The Pacemakers, Cilla Black, Billy J Kramer, and The Dakotas and in doing so, created the blueprint for music artist management.

**Wishing you another year of  
screening great movies!**

**Jonathan Gershon Stark**

Photographer/Artist/Educator

Original Artwork, Portraits, Assignments

118 North Main St., 2nd floor

Providence, RI 02903

617-233-3204

gershon@starkview.com

## **SUPPORTING CAST**

- Stan & Karen Bloustine

*"In memory of Ada Bloustine"*

- Rick & Myra Gipstein

*"Mazel Tov on the Jewish FilmFest's 32nd year!*

*May it continue to grow & be successful."*

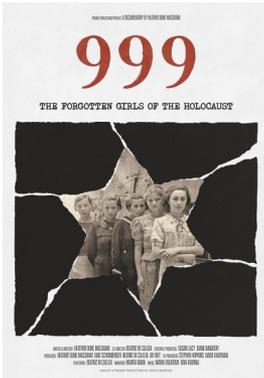
- Rabbi Aaron and Karen Rosenberg

*"Peace to all the world, especially the Middle East."*

- Cecile & Barry Feldman

*"Good luck for another year of success!"*

## Movie Lineup



### **999: THE FORGOTTEN GIRLS**

**Sunday, April 19, 3:00pm**

**US/Sweden, 2024, Documentary/Drama/  
War, English, 86 minutes**

**999: THE FORGOTTEN GIRLS** chronicles the lives of nearly one thousand young Jewish women and teenage girls deported from Slovakia to Auschwitz on March 25, 1942—the first official transport to the camp. Many were told they were being sent to work for the government. Instead, they became witnesses to, and victims of, the earliest phase of the Nazi extermination system. Through survivor testimony, rare archival footage, and meticulous historical investigation, the film restores identity and voice to women whose experiences were largely erased from the historical record.

**\*Talk Back with writer & director Heather Dunn McAdams and Sheila Horvitz\***



**Thank you to our 2026  
Jewish FilmFest Sponsors**

**Executive Producer**

The Leiser Family Foundation

Sayet & Seder

Jonathan Gershon Stark

**Director**

Carol Curland

Scott & Barbara Wolfe

**Leading Actor**

Attorney Richard J. Pascal, LLC

**Supporting Cast**

Cecile & Barry Feldman

Rabbi Aaron & Karen Rosenberg

Rick & Myra Gipstein

Stan & Karen Bloustine

**Critic's Choice Challenge**

*Don't just watch the movie –rate it like a Pro!*

In less than 60 seconds, tell us how you rate today's screening, for a chance to win a **“Director's Night Out”** Prize!

The Movie: \_\_\_\_\_

Star Rating \* \* \* \* \* (circle one)

One word to describe the film: \_\_\_\_\_

Your Name \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

[ ] Yes, please add me to JFEC's and GAC's weekly e-letters for future events.



-----



Drop off your ballot at our JFEC table in the lobby, or complete it online at



The more films you critique, the greater chance of winning one of these **Director's Night Out Prizes\***:

- **2 Season Tickets** to The Garde Arts Center 2027 **Breezeline Winter Cinema Series** OR **2 tickets** to one of three upcoming specialty shows: **Sixties Show** | **She** | **Wynton Marsalis**
- **A Gift Card** good at one of these local restaurants:
  - Tony D's | \$50
  - Tuskers | \$25
  - Jasmine Thai | \$25
  - Lion House Café | \$25
  - Cinnamon Grill | \$25

\*Prizes to be awarded April 20, 2026

