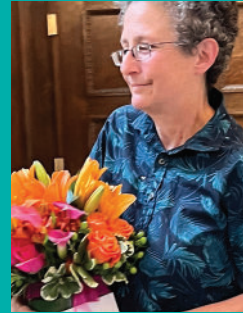


# TILLI

TEMPLE ISRAEL LIFELONG LEARNING INSTITUTE



Fall 2024

Learn with us online or onsite!

Welcome to the Summer/Fall 2024 season of the Temple Israel Lifelong Learning Institute (TILLI).



Please join us this summer for a number of interesting activities including in person and online art tours, Jacob’s Pillow trip, and two Voting Action days, where we will address postcards to states where voter suppression remains a challenge. Please register online at TILLI.org.

This fall we have a wonderful set of study groups led by our committed volunteer study group leaders. We will offer four study groups in the morning and four in the afternoon. A limited number will be available both onsite and online. We will introduce class websites this fall to show assignments and interact with classmates. **During lunch we will hear from five fascinating speakers on a wide range of topics.**

As always your registration fee includes both a continental breakfast and lunch. To cover the increasing cost to operate the TILLI program, our fees have been raised to \$100 for members of any temple and \$120 for non-temple members. Scholarships are available on request. Please contact the TILLI staff for scholarship and/or other questions/support. ([tilli@tisrael.org](mailto:tilli@tisrael.org) or call 617-566-3960)

Registration is online only at [TILLI.org](http://TILLI.org). Registration online accepts credit cards but you may make a check payable to Temple Israel and mail to TILLI-Temple Israel, 477 Longwood Ave, Boston, MA 02215.

As we are a peer-led institute, we welcome your input and participation on any level. Consider leading a study group (coaching available), joining a committee, or helping us to recruit new study group leaders and participants.

You may also honor or recognize TILLI by donating to the Gale Raphael TILLI Fund which supports our important work.

Hope to see you soon,  
Barbara Koff and Priscilla Golding  
TILLI Co-Chairs

# TILLI FALL 2024 SCHEDULE

**THURSDAYS: Oct 31, Nov 7, 14, 21, Dec 5, 12**

11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	Morning Study Groups
12:30 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.	Lunch and Learn Program
2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.	Afternoon Study Groups

## MORNING STUDY GROUPS

**11:00 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.**

**Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court** - *Carol Agate* (ONSITE)

**Introduction to Jewish Genealogy** - *Jessie Klein, Carolyn Kohlman* (ONSITE and ONLINE)

**Short Stories: Three Distinct Voices** - *Bob McCorkle* (ONSITE and ONLINE)

**Your Spiritual Legacy** - *Em Mueller* (ONSITE)

## AFTERNOON STUDY GROUPS

**2:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m.**

**The Old Masters and the "Old Testament"** - *Peggy Morrison* (ONSITE)

**Listening to and Loving Roots Music** - *Paula Noe* (ONSITE)

**The World of Sepharad: the Jews of Spain** - *Natalie Schatz* (ONSITE and ONLINE)

**Shakespeare's Antony and Cleopatra** - *Bennett Simon* (ONSITE)

**Register at [TILLI.org](https://www.tilli.org) Deadline: September 30<sup>th</sup>**

If you have any questions regarding TILLI, please contact TILLI Staff at [TILLI@tisrael.org](mailto:TILLI@tisrael.org), 617-566-3960.

Temple Israel's Lifelong Learning Institute (TILLI) provides opportunities for Temple members and others to engage in peer-led, intellectually stimulating study groups covering a broad range of topics, to enjoy cultural events together, and to develop social relationships and a community.

# Morning Study Groups

## ► Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court

Carol Agate (*carolagate@gmail.com*)

“The study group leader was exceptionally knowledgeable both from historical and personal perspectives. A group discussion developed. It was very nice to be in a forum in which we could talk about this very disturbing state of affairs.”

— TILLI Participant

Eight Jewish lawyers have served as justices in the US Supreme Court, and what an interesting bunch they’ve been. They varied in their relationship to Judaism, and all of them were accomplished students and lawyers. We will touch upon the operation of the federal courts in general and the surprising

relationship of many of the justices to the presidents who appointed them. Classes will include a mix of lecture and discussion, including stories about the justices’ personal and professional lives, on and off the Court. I’ll seek your opinions of their decisions and dissents, especially those concerning religious controversies.

**Readings:** Occasional handouts will be placed on the class website.



Above: Lunch and Learn, Spring 2024

See Study Group Leader biographies on pages 11-12.

# Morning Study Groups

## ► Introduction to Jewish Genealogy:

### Learning the Tools to Help Discover Your Jewish Roots

Jessie Klein ([kleinj414@gmail.com](mailto:kleinj414@gmail.com)),

Carolyn Kohlman ([carolynleekohlman@gmail.com](mailto:carolynleekohlman@gmail.com))

Through lectures and discussions, members from the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston will help you develop the skills for researching your Jewish family history. Topics will include major online resources for finding ancestors and relevant records in the United States and Europe, identifying family lost in the Holocaust, and using DNA testing to uncover family connections.

The course is designed both for beginners and for those who have begun their family research. Participants should know how to do basic internet searches and to log onto websites.

**Readings:** Readings will be from internet websites and placed on the class website.

“I really appreciated the ongoing, clarifying visual presentations, which greatly aided those of us unschooled in basic biology. Although each class consisted almost completely in factual information, the instructor presented it in a low-key, relaxed sort of way, which invited questions though we had few.”

— TILLI Participant

## ► Short Stories: Three Distinct Voices

Bob McCorkle ([mccorkle49@yahoo.com](mailto:mccorkle49@yahoo.com))

We'll read stories by Raymond Carver, Chimamanda Adichie, and Edith Pearlman—two by each. These masters of the genre give us very different worlds to visit: a bridle abandoned in a bureau drawer by a man who could not leap far enough, a plane crash in Nigeria summoning two gods in New Jersey, and a castle near Boston with a beautiful lady waiting to die and an ugly guard with a kind heart. There will be one story a week to read at home. I will share some information about the writers in class to put the stories in context, but most of the time will be spent in discussion.

**Readings:** Stories will be chosen from three different books, *The Thing Around Your Neck* by Adichie, *Cathedral* by Carver, and *Honeydew* by Pearlman. The stories will be placed on the class website.

# Morning Study Groups

## ▶ Your Spiritual Legacy: Writing your Life

*Em Mueller (em.mueller@outlook.com)*

*"I write to discover what I know." — Flannery O'Connor*

In Judaism we honor our ancestors. We read Bible stories over and over again and learn something new each time. We cling to these stories as a foundation and as a path toward the future. The stories of our own lives can also bring meaning to our family and friends, grounding them in the past and providing them a model for living, and provide a way for us to discover ourselves.

This workshop will give you the opportunity to write your story. You will be prompted to remember and write about the moments from your own life that are most meaningful to you -- moments that inspired you, and perhaps moments that, through pain, led to growth. You will be writing your spiritual legacy.

**Reading:** All reading will be done in class with available Bibles.

"The SGL\* brought a great depth of knowledge about the women we studied. She had met many of them and so there was a lot of personal information that you wouldn't get from a book.

I also enjoyed the discussions."

— TILLI Participant



Above: TILLI Spring Semester, 2024

\*SGL="Study Group Leader" throughout brochure

# Afternoon Study Groups

## ▶ The Old Masters and the “Old Testament”

*Peggy Morrison (prmorrisson@verizon.net)*

We walk through the world’s great art museums. We see paintings by Caravaggio, Rembrandt, Poussin, Velazquez, Rubens. We pass flights into Egypt, crucifixions, saints performing miracles. We pass Venus and Cupid, Leda abducted by a swan, Paris choosing Aphrodite. And we also pass Abraham sacrificing Isaac, Susannah being spied on by the Elders, David with Goliath’s head.

What stories from the Hebrew Bible attracted these great artists? Why were so many artists attracted to the same texts? In this study group we will first read and discuss the sources in the Tanakh (Hebrew Bible) on which so many paintings are based. We will then look at different artists’ interpretations of the same story and ask: What aspects of the narrative do they choose to depict? How do their interpretations differ? Do their treatments of these subjects differ from their depictions of Christian or mythological subjects? Why do these differences exist? What did these pictures mean to their original audience? What do they mean to us? Two hours of preparation each week.

**Reading:** Any translation of the Hebrew Bible.

## ▶ Listening to and Loving “Roots Music”: Country and Bluegrass

*Paula Noe (paulahnoe@gmail.com)*

We will explore American history through "Roots" music (country and bluegrass), examining the lives, careers and canons of several significant artists (Jimmie Rodgers, the Carter family, Bill Monroe, Hank Williams, to name a few). Our syllabus will also include “Singing Cowgirls/Cowboys,” “Outlaws and Country Queens,” (Johnny, Willie, Waylon, Loretta, Dolly, Tammy), and so much more. We will consider how the complex political and social environments navigated by country and roots music artists shaped their music and public personas. Listen, discuss, and learn about the richness, variety, and relevance of these gems of American music. No prior interest or knowledge required — come be surprised!

**Reading:** We will have weekly reading/watching/listening “assignments.” Recommended book: *Country Music USA*, 50th Edition by Bill C. Malone and Tracey E.W. Laird, 2018 (\$27.95 on Amazon, paperback). Recommended watching: "Country Music" series by Ken Burns (available to stream on PBS or Amazon Prime). Other readings will be provided on the class website.

# Afternoon Study Groups

## ► The World of Sepharad: the Jews of Spain

Natalie Schatz ([schatz.natalie@gmail.com](mailto:schatz.natalie@gmail.com))

Jews lived in Spain for over a thousand years until the expulsion in 1492. This study group will discuss the origins of the Jewish population in Spain, the arrival of the Muslims in 746, the period of convivencia (coexistence) when Muslims, Jews, and Christians created a culture of tolerance in Medieval Spain, and the period of Christian rule that led to the expulsion and dispersal of the Sephardim. A major part of the study group will concentrate on the 11th-13th centuries which is considered the Golden Age for Jews in Spain. Some of the most influential Jewish thinkers such as Maimonides and Nahmanides lived in Spain. In class we will read and discuss poetry by Yehuda Halevi and Shmuel H. Nagid from the Golden Age.

“The currency of the topics discussed, the knowledge of the teachers, the reading material, videos and presentation material were very relevant and up to date. I enjoyed the open lively discussions.”

— TILLI Participant

**Reading:** *The Jews of Spain: A History of the Sephardic Experience*, Jane Gerber, \$16.81, Amazon. An optional text is *Ornament of the World*, Maria Rosa Menocal, \$13.99, Amazon



Above: TILLI Spring Semester Lunch and Learn, 2024



# Afternoon Study Groups

## ▶ Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*: An Immersion in Shakespeare

Bennett Simon ([bennett\\_simon@hms.harvard.edu](mailto:bennett_simon@hms.harvard.edu))

We will immerse ourselves in Shakespeare's *Antony and Cleopatra*, a tragedy suffused with intense erotic power and a lust for political power. The protagonists, Cleopatra and Marc Antony, are incandescent as they traverse the universe. This study group will focus on reading the play aloud with intertwined discussion. We will use film to deepen our understanding of character. Prerequisites are an interest in knowing more about Shakespeare and a willingness to participate in reading in class. No prior knowledge of Shakespeare or of this play is required. Two plus hours per week of preparation.

"The information the leader had garnered and shared, specifically, the book, the videos, the extra reading. He was very open and allowed much discussion."

— TILLI Participant

**Reading:** The Folger paperback edition of the play, a text with very helpful notes on Shakespeare's language – about \$10. Supplementary articles will be placed on the class website.




Above: Artificial Intelligence Event, 2024

Need help with class website or obtaining books for your study group?  
Please contact TILLI staff ([TILLI@tisrael.com](mailto:TILLI@tisrael.com)).

# UPCOMING TILLI


## JUNE 2024


S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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23 30	24	25	26	27	28	29


 Theater Party:  
*Tony Stone*  
(Jun 2)

## JULY 2024

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28	29	30	31			

 Coping with Loss in  
Our Communities  
Workshop (Jul 11)

 *This is Art* at Studio  
Without Walls  
(Jul 18)

 Jacob's Pillow MOMIX  
(Jul 26)

## AUGUST 2024

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31


 Voting Action (Aug 8)


See pages 13-15  
for Summer  
Programming info.

## SEPTEMBER 2024

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1	2	3	4	5	6	7
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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	★ 30					

 Voting Action (Sep 12)

 Living Room with  
Chaim Gross's Art  
Collection (Sep 19)

 Fall Semester Registration  
Deadline (Sep 30)

# PROGRAMS *at a glance*

## OCTOBER 2024


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27	28	29	30	31		

**Morning Study Groups: 11:00 a.m.**  
**Afternoon Study Groups: 2:00 p.m.**  
**Lunch and Learn: 1:00 p.m.**

 **TILLI Fall Semester Begins**  
**Oct 31**


## NOVEMBER 2024

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30

 **Fall Semester Study Group**  
**Sessions/Lunch & Learn**  
**Nov 7, 14 & 21**

## DECEMBER 2024

S	M	T	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

 **Fall Semester Study Group**  
**Sessions/Lunch & Learn**  
**TILLI Fall Semester continues**  
**Dec 5 & 12**



Join us for  
**LUNCH AND LEARN**  
**Thursday Afternoons, 1:00 - 1:45 p.m.**  
 More info on page 16.

# Study Group Leaders



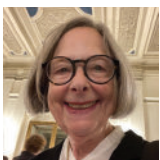
**Carol Agate** (*Jewish Justices of the Supreme Court*) practiced law in California and served on the ACLU Los Angeles Chapter advisory board. She worked in both civil and criminal law, later as an administrative law judge. Her women's rights case went to the US Supreme Court.



**Jessie Klein and Carolyn Kohlman** (*Introduction to Jewish Genealogy: Learning the Tools to Help Discover Your Jewish Roots*) are the immediate past co-Presidents of the Jewish Genealogical Society of Greater Boston, and are instructors in their annual genealogy course. Jessie has been researching ancestors in Poland and the Austro-Hungarian Empire for 15 years. Carolyn's family research focus is on Germany, areas of German-American immigration and the Holocaust.



**Bob McCorkle** (*Short Stories: Three Distinct Voices*) is a retired third grade teacher who has also taught adult literacy and a poetry course at TILLI. Gathering these stories gave him the chance to find voices new to him and to encounter characters not easily forgotten.



**Peggy Morrison** (*The Old Masters and the "Old Testament"*) has a PhD in English and American Literature and has taught at the secondary and college levels. She is interested in the intersection of art and literature and has studied both art history and biblical and rabbinic texts at the graduate level. She participates weekly in Torah Study.

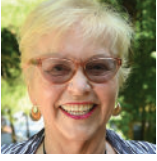


**Em Mueller** (*Your Spiritual Legacy: Writing your Life*) has a graduate degree in writing poetry. She taught English and Creative Writing at UMass Boston until her retirement, after which she studied for her ordination in 2012. Since then, she has been working as a rabbi as well as leading writing workshops, and most recently caring for her daughter and 5 grandchildren.

"SGL's knowledge of the subject matter was impressive. So was his planning for each class. The discussion in class was interesting. The additional audio and visual materials were very good."

— TILLI Participant

# Study Group Leaders



**Paula H. Noe** (*Listening to and Loving “Roots Music”: Country and Bluegrass*) is a (happily) retired Collaborative Family Law attorney with a lifetime love of music and a newfound love of Roots music. She lives in Brookline and is a long-time member of Temple Israel.



**Natalie Schatz** (*The World of Sepharad: the Jews of Spain*) spent many years as an academic librarian and has taught in Library School. She has a lifelong love of literature. At TILLI she has led study groups on Israeli literature and Italian writers.



**Bennett Simon** (*Shakespeare’s Antony and Cleopatra: An Immersion in Shakespeare*) is a retired psychiatrist and psychoanalyst, long interested in drama and psychological understanding. He taught undergraduates at Harvard for twenty plus years in a course on Tragedy, Drama, and the Family. He wrote *Tragic Drama and the Family: Psychoanalytic Studies from Aeschylus to Beckett* and has taught Shakespeare at TILLI.

“All excellent - learned a great deal from Lisa Davis about the Middle Ages Haggadot and Ann Bookman’s poetry truly resonated with me.”

— TILLI Participant

**PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE  
AT [TILLI.org](https://www.tilli.org)**

**REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2024**

# TILLI Summer Session 2024



## REGISTRATION OPTIONS

[www.tilli.org](http://www.tilli.org)

[TILLI@tisrael.org](mailto:TILLI@tisrael.org)

617-566-3960

### Theater Party: *Toni Stone*

Sunday, June 2, 2:30 p.m.

#### (ONSITE at the Huntington Theater)

Join TILLI for a matinee at the Huntington Theater on Huntington Ave to see *Toni Stone*. Toni Stone, an ace baseball player is rejected by the All-American Girls Professional Baseball League because of her race. She becomes the first woman to play professional baseball on a man's team in the Negro Leagues, shattering expectations and creating her own set of



rules. Filled with humor and the love of the game, Huntington favorite Lydia R. Diamond, who wrote and directed the play, knocks it out of the park with this beautiful rich portrait of a trailblazing woman. **Tickets will be \$30, a great bargain.**

### “Coping with Loss in Our Communities” Workshop

Thursday, July 11, 11:00 a.m.

#### (ONSITE at TI and ONLINE)

In this training, the trainer will share ways in which the pandemic has changed the way we all process loss and facilitate a conversation on methods that can help participants find meaning and healing from these losses. Lunch will be served.



# TILLI Summer Session 2024

## **This is Art at Studio Without Walls**

Thursday, July 18 at 11:00 a.m.  
(ONSITE at Riverway and return  
to Temple Israel for a bag lunch)



We will walk on the Riverway to view the annual Studio Without Walls. Led by an artist/docent, this is Art features sixteen sculptures by 17 artists. We will meet near the Longwood T stop on Chapel Street. After the walk, we will

meet back at Temple Israel for a bag lunch. **Cost: \$15 for bag lunch.**

## **Jacob's Pillow MOMIX**

Friday, July 26

(Bus to Jacob's Pillow, Becket, MA, Friday night dinner)

Famous across the globe for exceptional inventiveness, MOMIX is a company of dancer-illusionists under the direction of Moses Pendlet. Each production focuses not only on the beauty of the human form, but also the beauty of nature, music, scenography, and life itself. MOMIX's productions are carefully crafted to assimilate a multitude of various elements in each and every show. **Cost: \$115 for bus, ticket, and dinner.**



# TILLI Summer Session 2024

## Voting Action 2024

led by Sandra Wixted

Thursday, August 8, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m.,

and Thursday, September 12, 12:00 - 2:00 p.m. (ONSITE at TI)

Together, we will address postcards to states where voter suppression remains a challenge, aiming to counteract barriers like ever-changing polling places and restricted early voting. Let's make our voices heard and ensure everyone has the opportunity to participate in our democracy! We will provide everything you need for a meaningful and enjoyable afternoon, including postcards, scripts, writing materials, lunch, and great company. All you need to bring is your enthusiasm and postcard stamps (which you can get after the event).



## Living Room with Chaim Gross's Art Collection

Thursday, September 19, 11:00 a.m. (ONLINE)



Join us for an online visit to the Chaim Gross Foundation in New York City, first established in 1974 with donations from over two dozen close friends and supporters of American artist Chaim Gross (1902-91).

The Foundation is located in the couple's historic Greenwich Village townhouse, where Gross had studio space. In 2009, the Foundation opened to the public the building's third floor living and dining space.

The Foundation stewards an extensive collection of over 12,000 objects that includes Gross's sculptures, drawings, and prints; a photographic archive; and Gross's large personal collection of African, Oceanic, Pre-Columbian, American, and European art that remains installed in the townhouse as Gross had it during his lifetime.

## REGISTRATION OPTIONS

[www.tilli.org](http://www.tilli.org) OR [TILLI@tisrael.org](mailto:TILLI@tisrael.org) OR call 617-566-3960



# LUNCH AND LEARN PROGRAM

Join us! Thursday Afternoons, 1:00 - 1:45 p.m.



RSVP: [TILLI@tisrael.org](mailto:TILLI@tisrael.org) for a ZOOM link

For more info about these speakers and their topics, please visit [TILLI.org](http://TILLI.org)



**OCT 31**  
**EMILY**  
**FRANKLIN**

*The Lioness of Boston:*  
Historic Fiction Based on the Life  
of Isabella Stewart Gardner



**NOV 21**  
**ERIC**  
**PETERSON**

Boston's Hidden Gem:  
The Metropolitan  
Waterworks Museum



**NOV 7**  
**ROGER**  
**GOTTLIEB**

Judaism and the Environment:  
What We Know and  
What We Don't



**DEC 5**  
**MARGIE**  
**YAMAMOTO**

Justice Denied:  
A Personal Perspective on  
Japanese American Incarceration



**NOV 14**  
**KEN**  
**LISS**

Caught in the Web of Words:  
Exploring Words & Phrases  
and How We Use Them



**DEC 12**  
**CLOSING**  
**LUNCH**

Join TILLI for a  
Winter and Spring Preview.



## Core Committee

**Barbara Koff and Priscilla Golding, Co-Chairs**

**Archivist and Caring Community:** Abby Greenberg

**Budget, Data, Tech Assistance:** Ted Greenwood

**Curriculum Committee:** Natalie Schatz, Barbara Koff, Co-Chairs

**Entertainment, Trips and Virtual Events:** Debi Gandre, Debra Mandel, Co-Chairs

**Special Events:** Serena Fujita

**Lunch and Learn:** Bob McCorkle

**Membership:** Beth Sands, Mark Kaplan, Co-Chairs

**Summer/Winter Programming Committee:**

Priscilla Golding, Deborah Seidel Co-Chairs

**Adult Liaison:** Saralynn Busch

**Public Relations and Photography:** Debra Mandel

**Nominating Committee:** Larry Koff, Judith Berkowitz, Co-Chairs

**Clergy Liaison:** Rabbi Suzie Jacobson

**Adult Education TILLI Staff:**

Lily Kaufman and Emma Glaser

**Brochure Design:** April Ropes

# PLEASE REGISTER ONLINE AT [www.TILLI.org](http://www.TILLI.org)

REGISTER EARLY.

MANY CLASSES HAVE LIMITED ENROLLMENT.

PLEASE INDICATE FIRST AND SECOND CHOICE  
WHEN REGISTERING.

## REGISTER BY SEPTEMBER 30, 2024

Registration is online only at [www.TILLI.org](http://www.TILLI.org), with no mail in registration. You will still have the option to pay by check or credit card when registering online. You may also register by phone by calling 617-566-3960 and asking for a TILLI staff person.

### FEES

**\$100.00** (members of a temple)

**\$120.00** (community members unaffiliated with a temple)

Contact TILLI staff at [tilli@tisrael.org](mailto:tilli@tisrael.org) or  
call 617-566-3960 for questions/support.

Scholarships are available on request.

Fees can be paid by credit card online or by check.

Make checks payable to Temple Israel and mail to:

TILLI-Temple Israel, 477 Longwood Avenue, Boston, MA 02215



Temple  
Israel  
Lifelong  
Learning  
Institute

Non-Profit  
Organization  
US Postage  
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Boston, MA