

UNDER  ONE ROOF
LUMINOSITY
SUKKAH ART EXHIBIT

OCTOBER 2024



MAYERSON JCC
of Cincinnati

EXHIBIT

FOR ALL

UNDER **ONE** ROOF
LUMINOSITY
SUKKAH ART EXHIBIT

INTRODUCTION

The Mayerson JCC welcomes the community to celebrate the Jewish festival of Sukkot* with the Under One Roof Sukkah Art Exhibit. The exhibit invites community into a shared sukkah* beautified with works of art created by organizations, agencies, community groups, and individuals from across the city. Thousands of people visit the sukkah exhibit, and all are engaged and inspired. This year, participants used their artwork to explore the theme, *Luminosity*.

In our annual Under One Roof Sukkah Art Exhibit, we have had many themes permeate our exhibit, which always create thought-provoking conversations with compelling artworks from across the community.

When we look inside ourselves and bring those thoughts and feelings outward, that contemplation coming together from different perspectives creates an interlacing of ideas, thoughts, and truths for us as individuals and as a community.

The artworks in the 2024 Under One Roof exhibit explore the ways in which light influences our lives.

What the world needs more of is a little light.

From the beginning of time — from when G-d said, “Let there be Light!” to how luminescence influences and inspires us today — light has been an enduring symbol in Judaism.

As the Proverbs teach, “A mitzvah is a candle, and the Torah is light.” As we fulfill mitzvot and live Torah-informed lives, luminosity shines through our beings. Further, we implement the idea of celebrating rituals with beauty, *hiddur mitzvah*, by adorning the walls of our sukkah with the exquisite artworks created by Under One Roof participants.

As we take in the radiance of the stars in the night sky above our sukkah, the artworks in the 2024 Under One Roof exhibit explore the brilliance of light all around us.

What brings light to your life? Who illuminates you? How can we aspire to make the world a better and brighter place? Discovering meaning on our journey, we treasure the luminescence around us, wherever it may come from.

** Sukkot is the Jewish festival giving thanks for the fall harvest. It also commemorates the 40 years of the Israelites wandering in the desert after Sinai. Sukkah is the Hebrew word for the temporary structures built to celebrate the holiday.*

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Thank you to our 2024 participants!



Adrienne Varady

In this family portrait, the Arba Minim (Four Species) pose inside their home, the sukkah. Outside, Clouds of Glory protect them from nebulous-lurking dangers just as these same angelic clouds protected the Camp of the Israelites from malevolent forces in the wilderness (as described in Sifrei Bamidbar 83 and elsewhere). Above, the Cloud of the Shekhinah spreads out just over the skhakh as illustrated in the commentary of Rabbi David Kimchi (1160-1236) on Isaiah 4:5: "In the beginning, the Anan haKavod (Cloud of Glory) was stationed in the Mishkan (Tabernacle) and the Beit ha-Miqdash (Holy Temple), but when the exiles returned, the Cloud of Glory would appear over the houses of the wise and the great and the devout." May all who take refuge within the sukkah be granted shelter and may all who seek peace within, between, and outside their tents, be granted everlasting peace for the sake of this beautiful world that we share together with all its many creatures, helpful or dangerous, familiar and unusual.

When I began to think about this project, I thought of the horrors of October 7. How could I incorporate the idea of Sukkot and the horrors of a year ago? We were in Israel for the wedding of our granddaughter and for Sukkot. On that shabbat, which coincided with the final days of Shemini Atzeret and Simchat Torah (celebrated as a single day in Israel) immediately following Sukkot, the terrible news of the massacre reached us. I visualized the Shekhinah as the pillar of cloud sheltering and protecting the Israelites as they wandered in the Midbar and with the Clouds of Glory as their only protection against predators—human and nonhuman. May Hashem protect all of Israel now and forever.



Alexa Theuerling Artist from the Jewish Cultural Mural

This piece is a reflection of a trip to Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion with ArtWorks this past summer. When thinking about the light that has been brought into my life, I think of the relationships that are closest to me: my family and friends. These connections bring so much joy and fulfillment to my life, allowing me to be uplifted, even in my lowest points. My piece reflects love and loss, as seen through a depiction of my younger and current self, holding a Yahrzeit candle. This is something my family and several other Jewish families practice—celebrating the lives of loved ones who have passed. I remember the first time we lit the Yahrzeit candle for my grandpa, and with the passing of my uncle, it has been highly reflective of how life is never guaranteed and that each moment must be treasured. I am grateful for my art and Jewish communities within Cincinnati, which enabled me to grow into the young woman I am today. Art allows us a platform to tell our stories and, during this time, I believe, as a human and artist, I am going through many beautiful changes that are allowing me to become my best self truly. I hope when you view my artwork, the light allows you to think of someone you may have lost, or are thinking of currently, and reflect on the feelings shared between all.



Alexandra and Yuliya Avelino

Alexandra (8 years old), and I (Yuliya) were both involved in completing the artwork. Sukkot is one of our family's favorite holidays. Alexandra wanted to paint the three things which illuminate our lives most during Sukkot. The sukkah is a joyful, fun-filled reminder to celebrate G-d's presence in our lives with family and friends. The waving of the lulav, which always brings a smile to Alexandra's and my face, fills the Sukkah with joyful laughter and dancing. Alexandra's love of animals, especially cats in her daily life, symbolizes the celebration of Sukkot with all those we love, including our precious animals. Chag Sameach to all you beautiful people! Am Yisrael Chai!



Anisha Kanakia, LLC

Community Art Project led by Anisha Sanghani

As the spearhead of the Under One Roof community art project, I guided children aged 5-18 in creating artwork inspired by the festival's harvest theme. Following an explanation of the festival's cultural context and significance, the children created elements that aligned with my sukkah painting, employing vibrant colors to depict a night sky with twinkling stars.

This piece features multiple layers of color and meaning, as children from diverse backgrounds applied their unique imaginative interpretations of the festival. I would like to extend my appreciation to Shea Robinson, Paige Sias, Rayna Sanghani, Malu, and several tiny tots who contributed their artistic talents to this piece.



Anisha Sanghani

Anisha Kanakia Sanghani is a Mixed-Media Artist based in Cincinnati, Ohio. She has a BFA in Fine Arts from DAAP, is a Senior Graphic Designer with 15+ years of work experience and has strong textile design and printing skills. Having spent her childhood years in Mumbai, India, her artwork references both Indian and Western artistic cultures.

Anisha's goal is to utilize art as a form of self-expression and create meaningful art that can impact our society positively. She has taught art at Cincinnati Public Schools, The GhostLight Stage Company, Cincinnati Arts Association, Skool Aid, nonprofit outreach organizations such as BestPoint Behavioral Health and InRETURN – Empowering Brain Injury Survivors, and art centers including Kennedy Heights Arts Center, Wave Pool, Fitton Center for Creative Arts, and Middletown Art Center.

Anisha is the recipient of numerous awards from organizations including the Prestige Award from the University of Cincinnati, GDUSA (Graphic Design USA), PiaNKO – Print Excellence Award, and has had exhibitions in galleries in the United States and Europe and won juried exhibitions, including Reading Community Center, The Clifton Cultural Arts Center, SCAC – The Arts North Competition at The Westheimer Gallery, The Golden Ticket – SummerFair, In Art Gallery, and Art Comes Alive – ADC Fine Art.

Through this painting, I honor the Jewish festival of Sukkot and the sukkah, a symbol of joy and divine protection in the desert. It highlights creativity, faith, and cultural heritage through vibrant and imaginative elements like fruits, leaves, and vegetables that represent the harvest and God's creation. The artwork depicts nature's elements surrounding the Zenith Moon, which shines its light into the darkness, creating a powerful visual representation of the festival.



Camp at the J

Camp at the J offers a fun, active, and safe summertime experience providing opportunities for children and young adults in the Jewish and broader communities to build friendships, learn valuable skills, and participate in physical activity, and enhance their self-esteem. Our welcoming and inclusive environment values the dignity and worth of each individual, and we work to foster positive relationships and build greater understanding among campers of every background, culture, religion, gender identity, race, and physical and intellectual capability.

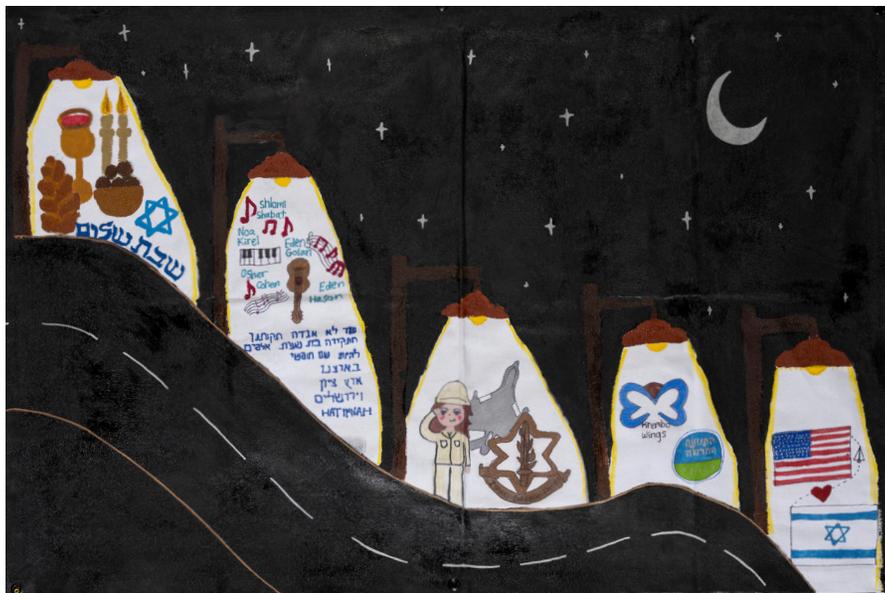
At Camp at the J, kids can experience the best of summer! Here, you can see each camper and counselor decorated a star. Some have notes, some have names, and some have drawings, but each and every star shines bright, just like our campers.



Camp Livingston

Camp Livingston, a Jewish residential youth camp, enriches the lives of its campers and staff by providing a fun, unique community experience, while encouraging the development of Jewish identity within a safe and inclusive environment. Camp Livingston enables the formation of lifelong friendships and provides the opportunity to participate in exciting recreational and creative programming.

We see luminosity at Camp Livingston represented in many ways. Our panel shows the stunning night sky, lit up by the moon, stars, and even a campfire, over the lake at Camp. Lucky for us, we get to appreciate the beauty of night skies amongst nature just like this all summer long. To us, overnight Camp is so special because of the engagement, bonding, and growth that happens during the evenings. Our staff and campers who were involved in making this sukkah panel wanted to display that the luminosity they see and feel during evenings at Camp is incredibly special to them.



Chaverim M'Israel

Art by: Ron Zolotarev and Naama Sagi

Hi! We are the Chaverim M'Israel 2024-2025, Ron and Naama. When we started working on this project, our main goal was to share our sense of belonging to Israel, and how it grew stronger during the tough times that we experienced as a result of the 7th of October and the war.

This lined up with the topic for this year's exhibition - *Luminosity*. That is how our artwork came to life, showing the things which gave us light during the hard times that we had to endure, and to showcase the parts of our identity that kept us going and fighting for our country in whatever way we could. Music, Shabbat dinner, including our favorite Israeli food, our youth movements—Knafayim Shel Krembo (Krembo Wings) and Hatnuah HaHadasha (the new movement)—our brave soldiers, and the connection that we are harboring and strengthening with Jewish communities all over the United States and specifically Cincinnati. We are excited to be here and to share these glimpses of who we are and who we hope to be for the community.

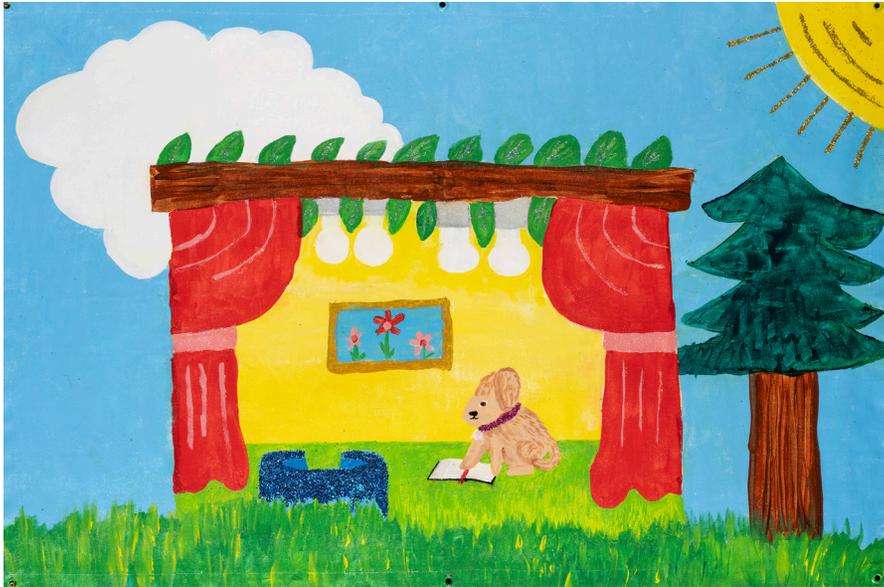


Cincinnati Community Mikveh

It's a mitzvah to welcome Shabbos by lighting many candles; at minimum, we light two. Their radiance is meant to enhance every aspect of our Shabbos experience, enjoying food and drink, spending time with friends and family, connecting with Hashem and his Torah. Mishlei 6:23 teaches:

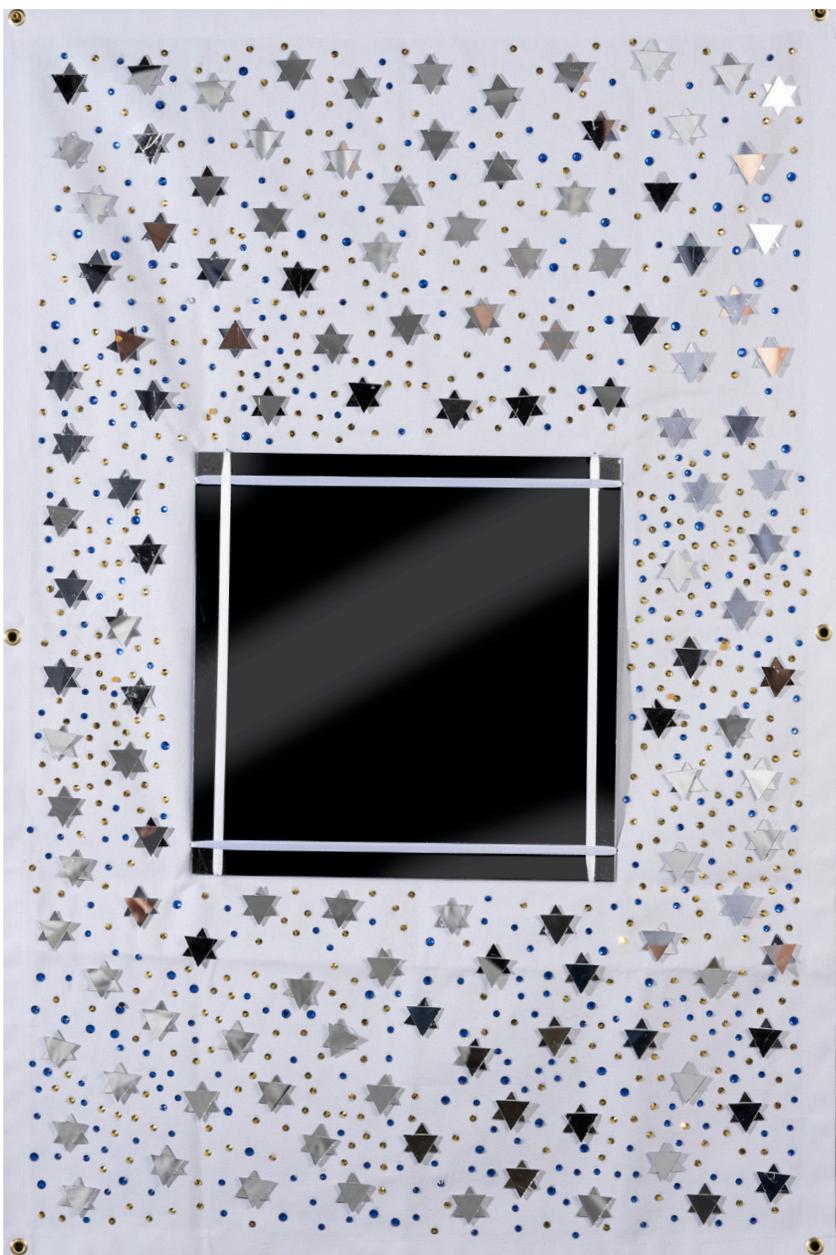
כי נר מצוה ותורה אור

Our sages explain that one who fills their home with the candles of Mitzvos, inevitably will experience the luminescence of Torah.



Clara Rohrs (8)

God created light, so I painted a big sun. There are bright lights inside, as well. I wanted to paint Sandy, my stuffy dog, because she brings me joy. I love God's Word, so I painted Sandy with her paw on the Bible. First, I drew several small pictures with pencil. Then, I used chalk to draw larger onto the canvas. I used acrylic paint and glitter to show luminosity. My grandma helped me with the glitter and outlining my cloud.



Congregation Etz Chaim

Passionate and participatory, Congregation Etz Chaim's supportive Jewish community engages each individual in a life-long Jewish journey. We embrace diverse experiences that span both traditional and contemporary ideas while learning and pursuing spiritual growth.

We are building a blended Jewish community to address the needs of singles, couples and families in all stages of life by:

- Providing a spiritually meaningful and educationally stimulating environment
- Creating a deeply connected, mutually supportive, and joyful atmosphere
- Building bridges with the broader community to improve the world and support Israel

Reflection – Illumination – Rejuvenation

The light of the Jewish people at times may feel dulled or hard to see, but the spark of what makes us an Am Kodosh (a holy nation) is never extinguished.

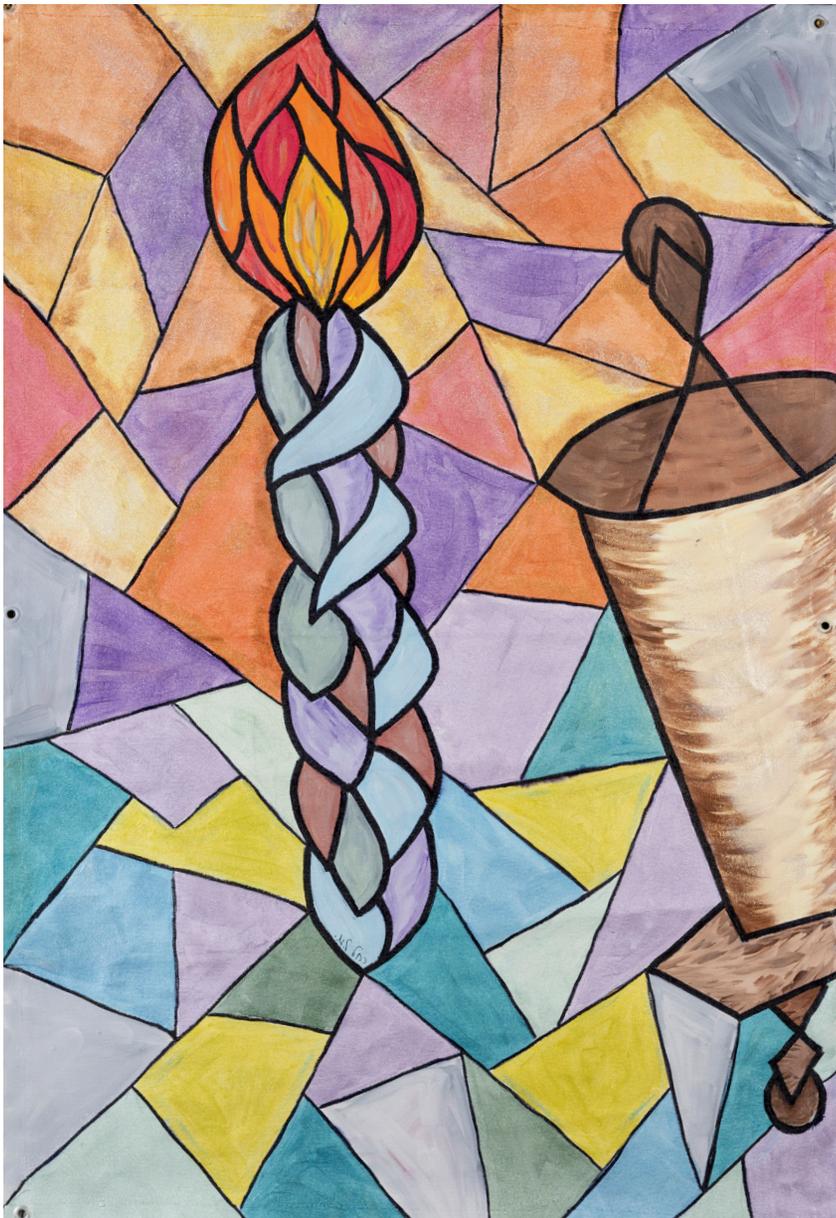
We are created B'zelem Elokeim (in G-d's image), imbued with a spark of the divine, each of us with our own special, unique internal light that we can share with the world through mitzvot (deeds of loving kindness) and through the courage to stand up and be who we are.

Each stone and reflective star of our panel is symbolic.

While each one is beautiful on its own, together the piece acts as one, increasing the luminosity of each other and working together to brighten the panel.

So, too, it is with Klal Yisrael (the Nation of Israel); each one of us is unique and special but when we find ways to stand side by side and work together, we can serve as a light unto the nations.

Am Yisrael Chai.



Congregation Zichron Eliezer

Shabbos is a time to reconnect with those things we may have inadvertently drifted apart from over the past week. The two candles can represent G-d and his people. We kindle them to begin Shabbos and reconnect. At Havdalah, we take our first steps into the new week, knowing that our connection to Hashem may feel less present. So, we allow ourselves one last embrace, holding in our hearts the feeling of closeness we experienced over Shabbos. The two flames that were once separate shine brightly together, darkness flees, our week begins.



Elana Kuperstein Rosen

A mother is the light of the family.

The theme of this artwork is the light of the family encompassed by the radiance of the mother. The word to give birth in Spanish is Dar A Luz, which means to bring forth light, which is what women do. In my artwork, the mother is blessing the candles and directing her light onto her children. You will notice she is a woman of color. This represents the fact that, as Jews, we are often diverse in language and appearance.

I try to inject some humor into the artwork with a toddler wearing a superhero mask. Children have big imaginations, and I wanted to convey that the daughter is lighting the candles with her mother, while her toddler brother is part of the ritual of lighting the candles as a bystander but is an imaginative child.

Outside the window on the trees are yellow ribbons so that we don't forget the hostages in Gaza who are in captivity. You will notice that there is a cat with his dinner at the family table. For many people, their pets are their family members.



Dr. Elana Younger, DMD

Jerusalem Night

Sukkot is a holiday of Emunah (trust). On Sukkot, we eat in the sukkah to remember Hashem's protective cloud that accompanied us in the desert. Last Sukkot, I was in Israel, and we were having a wonderful time with friends and family. Then suddenly, we awoke to the sound of sirens, and we ran to the bomb shelter. It was October 7. My brother Ben came back to shul to check on us, and the next minute he received a call from reserves. With a quick hug goodbye, I had no idea I would not see him for the next several months. Baruch Hashem, we did on my father's 60th birthday.

Luminosity has a number of contextual meanings. The first is "clarity," clarity for truth. Secondly, illumination follows the metaphor of the "light in the darkness" or the "hope when all looks bleak." October 7 was a tragic day, but with every tragedy, there are those who rise to bring the light of hope. As a nation, Israel has united Modern, Reformed, and Hassidic alike. All denominations were able to put aside differences in aiding post-tragedy. This extended to many in the US and other countries as well. Relocating families, laundry, Shabbos meals, boxing care packages, BBQs, etc. Not to mention the war heroes of that eventful day like my brother, who had to drop out of medical school and join the reserves. Or Rami Davidian, who saved numerous lives that day.

For many, October 7 was illuminating, for it provided clarity on what one's Jewish identity was. Illumination represents truth, goodness, hope, and clarity (basically all synonymous with each other and the Torah.) As I said, Sukkot is a holiday of Emunah, faith/hope. Hope for getting the Torah and entering the land of Israel. Hope for peace that Jews will have a homeland to freely and safely practice. Our Emunah and message have not changed.

For inquiries, or to see more of my work, feel free to check out my Instagram @elanayoungerdmd.



elech

Art by: Elliot Draznin

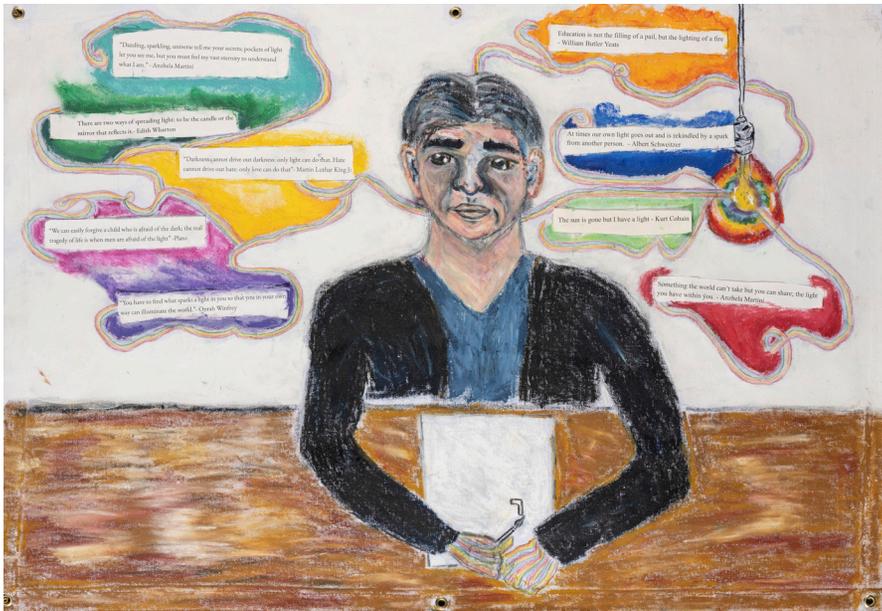
Creating Queer Jew-ish Belonging

The mission of *elech* is to provide a community of belonging for the LGBTQ Jew-ish community of Cincinnati through the celebration of shared intersectional culture.

In *elech*'s piece, luminosity serves as a beacon—illuminating the intersections of faith, identity, and community. Through vibrant colors and symbolic imagery, I explore what it means to belong, to be seen, and to thrive in the spaces where our identities converge.

The Hebrew text and the passage from the Book of Ruth, “For wherever you go, I will go; wherever your home is my home; your people shall be my people, and your G-d, my G-d,” underscore themes of loyalty, acceptance, and unconditional support, values central to both Jewish and LGBTQ experiences. This is where the name “*elech*” comes from.

Through this imagery, and all *elech* does, we aim to create a sense of warmth, light, and unity, where individuals can feel seen in all their complexity. Light in my work represents both spiritual and emotional illumination—guiding us toward empathy, understanding, and the celebration of our shared humanity.



Ella Martini

Man of Light

The theme for this year's Under One Roof art project was *Luminosity*. I created a man that lacks in color by appearance but, as you can see, his mind can create light and beautiful art. The quotes surrounding him are from the people who inspire me and bring their interpretation of light to the canvas. The rainbows are connections between the art the man creates and the powerful, igniting words. This shows that light is always with us and it's up to us to share it with others.



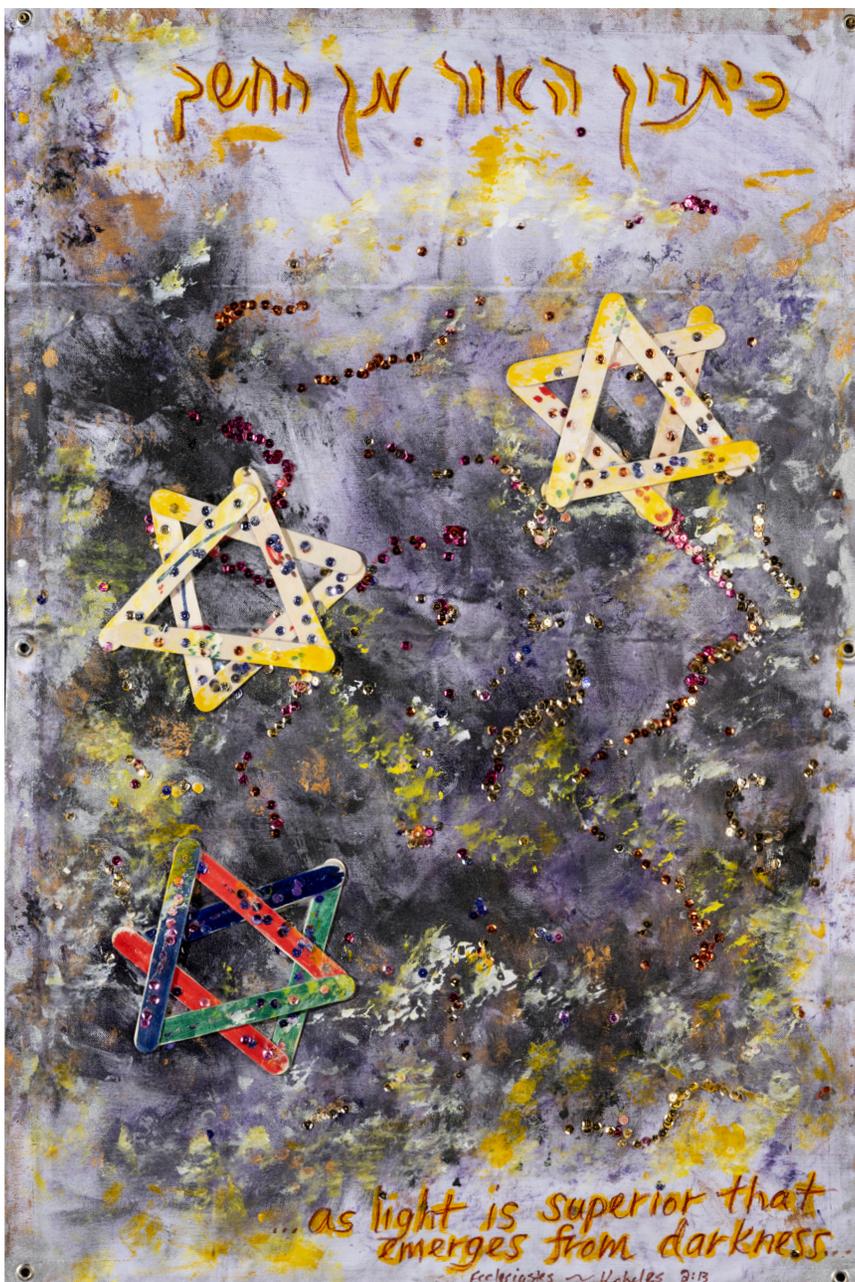
Hadassah

At Hadassah, we have the power to heal our world. For us, that means bringing healing in every sense of the word, where it is needed most, in the US, Israel and around the world, every day—as volunteers, as philanthropists, as change makers. For 100+ years, Hadassah has worked proactively to find and implement solutions to some of the most pressing medical challenges facing each generation. Together, we're advancing women's health, supporting a strong Israel, and instilling Jewish values in future generations.

Since the terror attacks on October 7, 2023, and the ongoing war, we are faced with new challenges for not only Israeli citizens but Israel's existence itself, as it is threatened on a daily basis.

Hadassah Hospital Mount Scopus continues with its phased opening of the Gandell Rehabilitation Center (ahead of schedule) to meet the growing needs for physical and psychological rehabilitation for our soldiers and civilians. The center includes a hydrotherapy-adapted pool, walking labs, and neurological testing systems.

This year's panel represents the human touch through our hearts and souls illuminating from within each of us, lighting the path of hope from our darkest days to a brighter future. As we fight hate and antisemitism, we fight for peace and harmony.



Halom House + JEEP

Halom House provides housing and wrap-around support for adults with developmental disabilities.

JEEP's (Jewish Education for Every Person) mission is to help individuals with challenges or different abilities access Jewish education, warmth and connections to empower them to overcome and better handle their life challenges. JEEP staff visit the Halom residents several times weekly, offering Shabbat and holiday parties and multi-sensory Judaic themed crafts and songs.

The Halom residents face challenges, yet are warm, fun, and loving. Their luminosity shines. The verse from Ecclesiastes came to mind: "There is an advantage of light that emerges from darkness." We all face challenges and darkness. Certainly, the Jewish people have during this past year, since October 7, 2023. Yet, deeper strengths and mutual bonds and support can emerge.

We can see how the Halom community thrives because of intense community support. With the help of the safe and supportive home that Halom House provides, these precious people have the opportunity to thrive and shine in their own unique way.

The residents enjoy coloring and affixing stickers. They colored the popsicle sticks, decorated them and the canvas with sequins, and assembled the stars. They enjoyed seeing the piece come together as the sequins brought a plain background to life!



Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion, Cincinnati Campus

Art by: Rachael Houser

Like the Stars of Heaven

While meditating on this year's theme of *Luminosity*, I kept coming back to Genesis 26:4. G-d promises Abraham, "I will make your descendants as numerous as the stars of heaven." Abraham's heirs are not only numerous, but they bring honor to his name and the journey he started. From Abraham, we get our patriarchs Isaac and Jacob, leaders like Moses and Joshua, and royalty like David and Solomon. We also get prophetesses like Deborah and Miriam, queens like Esther and Michal, and women of valor like Tzelophechad's daughters and the wise woman of Tekoa.

Hebrew Union College's "descendants" have been as numerous and varied as the stars of heaven. For an institution founded in this city almost 150 years ago, it has produced rabbinical and cantorial luminaries that have carried Judaism into the future. May Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion continue to spread light through its greatest resource: its students.



Home Base After School

At Home Base, we are a team of loving, dedicated Jewish professionals committed to nurturing children and meeting their social-emotional needs. Supported by the staff of Wise Temple, Home Base goes the extra mile to deliver enriching Jewish experiences to children and families.

We loved creating this piece with the Home Base students and staff to show the light that Home Base brings into each of our lives. As a group, we brainstormed ideas of how to represent this light and chose to show community and belonging in our sukkah panel.

The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives

The American Jewish Archives (AJA) is the largest free-standing repository dedicated to the preservation and study of the American Jewish experience. Since its founding in 1947, the fundamentals that have secured the AJA's longevity remain: to collect and preserve the history of American Jews and make accessible the rich details of the American Jewish experience in a way that is accurate, innovative, and informative.

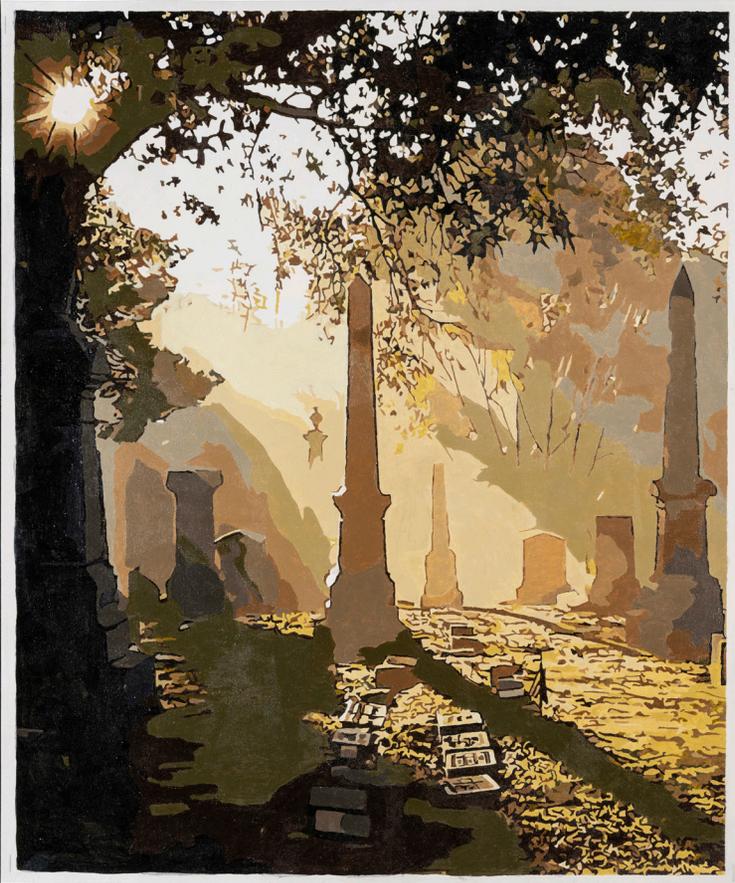
Emma Lazarus (1849 - 1887) was an American poet, translator, and activist and one of the first Jewish-American authors to achieve national stature. She is best remembered for "The New Colossus," an 1883 sonnet that contains the iconic "lines of world-wide welcome" inscribed at the base of the Statue of Liberty and included on our panel.

This year's theme of *Luminosity* allowed the AJA to highlight the Statue of Liberty with its iconic torch as a symbol of freedom and liberty for people fleeing discrimination and persecution. We were also able to showcase the work of a remarkable young Jewish woman whose poem helped to redefine liberty for all Americans and whose prose and poetry is, more generally, distinguished by its Jewish content and an impassioned Jewish concern.

Following the assassination of Tsar Alexander II in 1881 in Russia, there was an explosion of antisemitic violence, and thousands of Jews fled the Pale of Settlement for America, bringing a huge wave of Eastern European Jewish immigrants to America's shores. Lazarus, a highly educated woman descended from an American colonial family and a staunch defender of Jewish rights, was deeply concerned with the spread of antisemitism in the world and highly influenced by her immigrant relief work at Ward's Island in New York.

The beautiful lines of her sonnet serve as a reminder that America started as a refuge for those that have been oppressed, one which has been strengthened by the hard work, ingenuity, and brilliance of the diversity of the American population. The beautiful lines of her sonnet serve as a reminder that America started as a refuge for those that have been oppressed, one which has been strengthened by the hard work, ingenuity, and brilliance of the diversity of the American population.





**It is during our darkest moments
that we must focus to see the light.**

-Aristotle Onassis

Jewish Cemeteries of Greater Cincinnati

Jewish Cemeteries of Greater Cincinnati (JCGC) serves the burial needs of the Greater Cincinnati Jewish community with care and dignity and honors the resting places of our people.

“It is during our darkest moments that we must focus to see the light.”

– Aristotle Onassis

On July 1, 2024, JCGC discovered that vandals had knocked over a total of 176 monuments in our Tiferath Israel and Beth Hamedrash Hagadol (Golf Manor #4) cemeteries in Covedale. The destruction was devastating.

Our thoughts immediately turned to the dark—the motive behind the action, the sadness and anger felt by the families, the work required to upright the monuments.

But soon thereafter, we could see the light—the hundreds of individuals around the country and of varying faiths who donated to our special repairs fund, the many who offered to physically help, and that we were able to connect living relatives to hundreds of people buried in our cemeteries.

The work to upright the monuments is far from over. If you would like to be a light, please go to jcemcin.org to make a donation or email info@jcemcin.org to become a contact for your relatives buried in our cemeteries.

For this year’s artwork, we sent an existing photograph of our Walnut Hills cemetery to Canvas by Numbers, a company that creates paint-by-numbers kits from photographs. We wish to thank Christine Doyle and Greg Nock for designing and painting our entry.



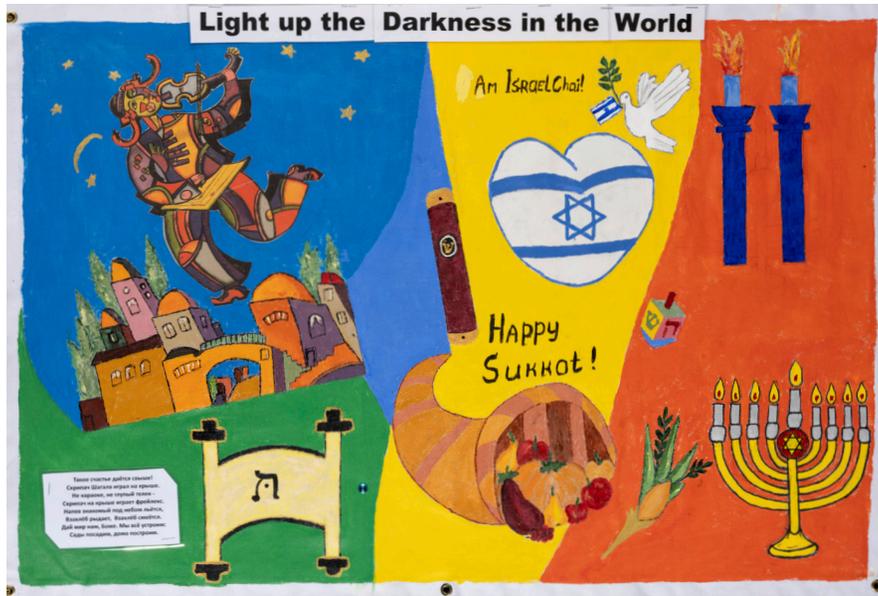
Irina Ovrutsky Jewish Family Service, Client

My name is Irina. I am a Holocaust survivor. I chose to embroider several pieces that depict women surrounded by flowers, a woman violinist, and bouquets of flowers. Each piece sparkles and shines, reflecting her conscious choice to highlight light and beauty despite the darkness she has endured.

The woman in the flowers represents the enduring strength and grace of femininity, even in the face of unimaginable adversity. The violinist symbolizes music that uplifts the spirit, a reminder of the cultural treasures that have sustained many in the darkest of times. The flowers, blooming brightly, symbolize the renewal of life and the enduring beauty that endures despite destruction.

The use of sparkling threads is more than a choice on my part—it is a statement that each shimmer is a beacon of hope, illuminating the path from past suffering to a future filled with light and possibility. Through this art, I would like to celebrate the timeless beauty of life and the human capacity for resilience.

This work encourages viewers to reflect on their own lives, to find light even in the darkest moments and to appreciate the beauty that surrounds us. It is a message of hope, renewal, and the power of art to heal and inspire.



Lola Smolyansky Jewish Family Service, Client

In this intricate artwork, Jewish symbols like the Star of David, Menorah, Torah scroll, Sukkot symbols, the Israeli flag, and a fiddler on the roof come together with a dove symbolizing peace. Each symbol carries deep meaning: the Menorah represents wisdom, and the Torah scroll stands as the foundation of Jewish faith. The dove, soaring above, conveys a universal yearning for peace, highlighting the interconnectedness of these symbols.

This piece serves as a poignant reminder that peace is a continuous journey rooted in heritage, wisdom, and faith. It reflects the ongoing struggles of the Jewish people and the hope for a future where peace is actively pursued.

The artwork concludes with the statement, "Light up the darkness in the world." This phrase encapsulates Lola's intent, urging viewers to carry the light of wisdom, hope, and peace into a world often shadowed by darkness. Through this piece, Lola is encouraging us all to stand against antisemitism and radical ideologies and to illuminate the path toward a world where hope and peace are realities for all.

Lola is deeply committed to bringing joy to others, and expresses a love for uniting people, especially in relation to Israel. Through her drawings and embroideries, she aims to cradle and uplift those she cares about. Her life's work is dedicated to spreading happiness and fostering connections, and she cherishes the smiles of her beloved friends as they journey together in kindness and light.



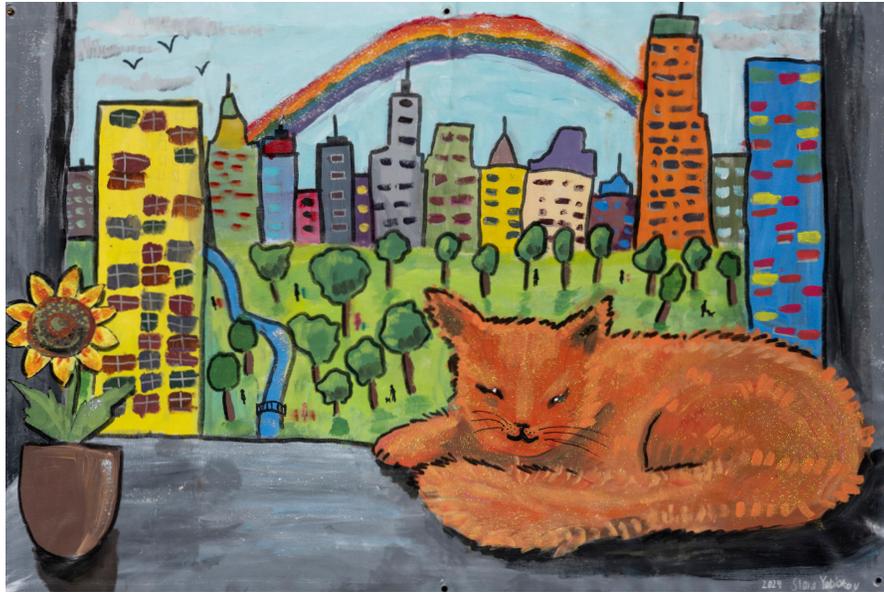
Raisa Finkelshteyn Jewish Family Service, Client

This artwork features a striking composition of birds formed from puzzle pieces, each bird carrying symbolic meaning, deeply connected to the themes of Sukkot and the concept of light guiding our lives.

At the top, an eagle created from the American flag symbolizes strength, freedom, and resilience, reflecting the spirit of liberty and the ideals of hope. Below it, an owl represents wisdom, guiding us through moments of darkness, much like the insight and understanding we seek during Sukkot. The dove, a universal emblem of peace, symbolizes our collective yearning for harmony, resonating with the festival's themes of reflection and unity.

Other birds, each unique, represent the diversity of experiences within the Jewish community. They remind us that, although we follow different paths, we are all part of a greater whole, much like the puzzle pieces that form a cohesive image.

This artwork embodies the idea that each symbol and moment of reflection contributes to the greater light that illuminates our lives. The theme of *Luminosity* emphasizes the light that guides us, the wisdom that enlightens us, and the hope that sustains us. As we celebrate Sukkot, this piece invites us to appreciate the individual and collective light we bring into the world, illuminating our journey towards understanding, peace, and freedom.



Slava Yablokov Jewish Family Service, Volunteer

My name is Slava, and I'm ten years old. Occasionally I volunteer at JFS, and I am excited to share my artwork for the Under One Roof Sukkot Art Exhibit. My piece features a large orange cat sitting on a window frame in the bottom right corner, gazing out into a vibrant city skyline. This skyline is inspired by my recent visit to Chicago, where I was amazed by its stunning architecture.

Behind the skyline, I painted a beautiful rainbow, symbolizing hope and joy, which aligns perfectly with the spirit of Sukkot. This holiday is about gratitude and celebrating the things we love, and my orange cat embodies that sentiment. The cat represents companionship and comfort, reminding us of the joy that pets bring into our lives.

In addition to the cityscape, I included a lush park filled with stunning trees and beautiful nature. This element signifies the importance of connecting with the natural world, even in an urban environment. It represents the balance between city life and the tranquility found in nature, much like how Sukkot encourages us to gather in our sukkahs and appreciate the beauty around us.

Through my artwork, I hope to inspire others to reflect on the things that make them happy and to appreciate the love and comfort we find in our homes and in our relationships. Sukkot reminds us to cherish our connections with family, friends, and even our pets. I am grateful for the opportunity to share my love for cats, nature, and the joy of togetherness through this piece. Thank you for viewing my masterpiece!



Jews of Color Sanctuary

Jews of Color Sanctuary is a support network connecting Jewish people of color in Cincinnati and the Midwest with the national landscape. We create events that center around Jewish people of color, cultivate learning and ritual spaces, advocate for broader reflection of Jewish diversity, and partner with organizations to foster welcoming and engaging Jewish spaces, programming, and rituals.

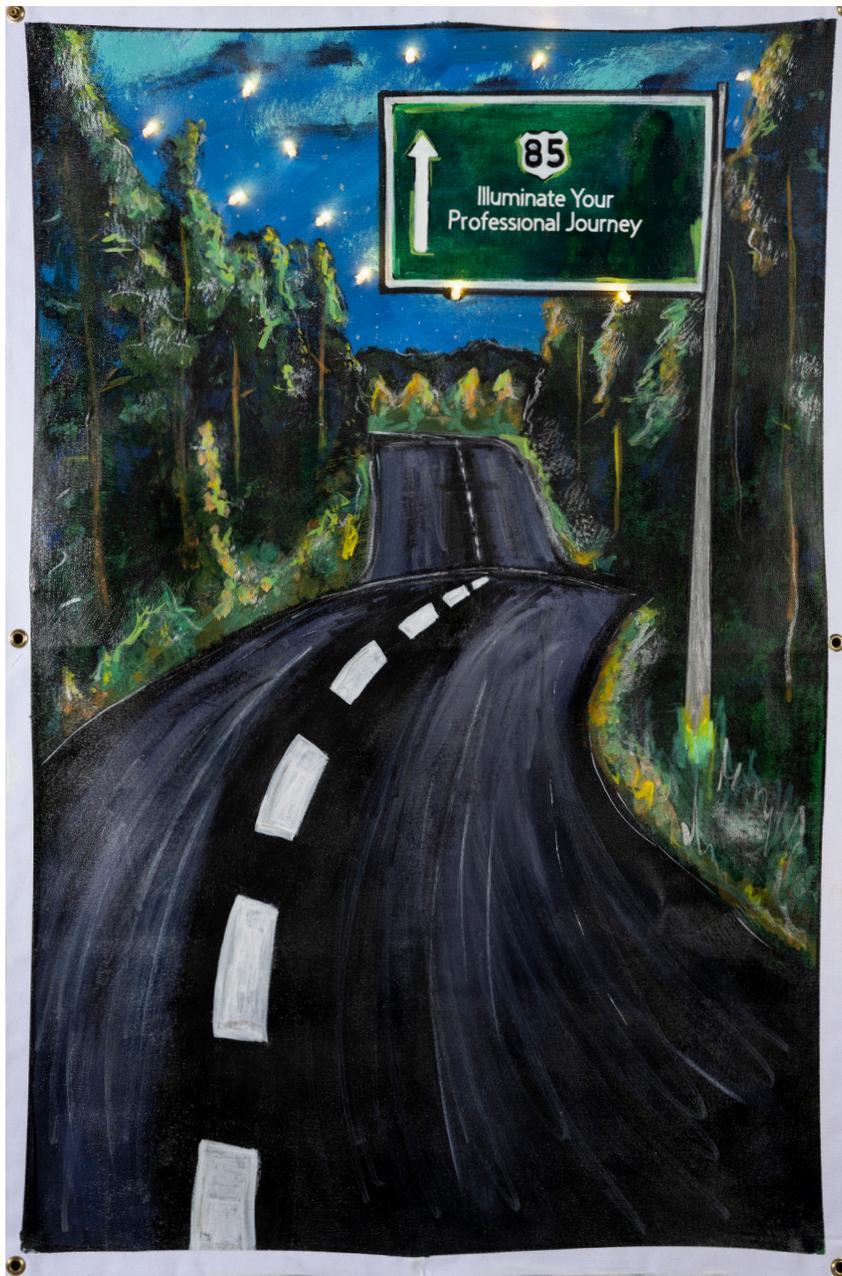
ליקוטי מוהר"ן ב"י

אך דע, שעל-ידי מרה-שחורה אי אפֿשר להנהיג את המוח פֿרצונ, ועל-כן קשה לו ליִשב דֿעתו. רק על-ידי השמחה יוכל להנהיג המוח פֿרצונ, ויִכל ליִשב דֿעתו, כי שמחה הוא עולם החרות, בבחינת (ישעיהו נ"ה:י"ב): כי בְּשִׂמְחָה תִצְאוּ, שֶׁעַל-יְדֵי שִׂמְחָה נִעֲשֶׂין בְּ-חֹרֵין וְיוֹצְאִין מִן הַגְּלוּת.

Lekutei Moharan II: 10

But know! Deep, pervasive sorrow makes it impossible to direct the mind the way one wants. It is therefore difficult for a person to attain yishuv ha-daat. Only joy enables them to direct the mind as they please and attain yishuv ha-daat. This is because joy is the realm of freedom, as in "For through joy you will go out" (Isaiah 55:12). Through joy a person becomes free and goes out of exile.

This is a collaborative piece created at a mussar immersive after a creative practice text study bridging the ritual of mourning the destruction of the temple with the destruction of black bodies as a temple. Recognizing that destruction is a constant all around us. We explored holding mourning alongside joy, allowing us to build and create anew, akin to the transition between the nine days of mourning leading up to Tisha B'Av and the seven haftarat of comfort. Twenty-two participants did individual work before collaborating on this piece.



JVS Careers

We empower individuals from diverse backgrounds to obtain employment and build careers; and partner with employers to hire, develop, and retain top talent, all to strengthen the communities we work in.

The journey of finding one's career path is often marked by uncertainty, much like navigating a winding road without a clear destination in sight. Whether you're a student seeking career guidance, a job seeker pursuing the next opportunity, or an employer striving to identify the best candidate, this journey can feel daunting. Through this artwork, we seek to capture the essence of this experience while celebrating the light that JVS Careers offers as a beacon of hope and clarity amidst the complexities of career exploration.

The artist's medium of choice was acrylic on canvas. Touches of silver ink were used in conjunction with the twinkling lights to give a warm and clear glow to the canvas, illuminating the scene and reflecting the theme of *Luminosity*.



Lauren Shapiro

A source of light that I gravitate towards is the beauty of nature, specifically flowers. I have always been drawn to vibrant colors and the innate beauty of florals. I often find that nature has the best paint palette—whether it's the pastel glow of a setting sun, or a fresh flower growing in a garden, they inspire me to create and find moments of joy.

In a world filled with negativity and uncertainty, finding everyday moments of beauty and joy is more valuable than ever.

"Where flowers bloom so does hope." My hope is that my piece will evoke a sense of lightness as a reprieve from the heaviness of the world.



**Lena Richards (21), Sheridan Hennessy (18),
Vivien Slagle (17), Eva Robles (18),
Marlon Rudolph (18)**
Artists from the Jewish Cultural Mural

This tapestry was inspired by Jewish artists such as bell hooks, Ruth Weisberg and Nancy Spero, and their luminous, colorful, and often female-centered artworks. It incorporates several iconic symbols of Judaism, like stained glass and candles.



Lizzie Kibler Wallace

This year has been challenging for me, but amidst the darkness, I've discovered two sources of light that have brightened my life.

My husband and I have created a warm and welcoming home for our small family, which includes our two cats, Amethyst and Trixie. These feline companions have brought unexpected joy into our lives. In the painting, I've depicted them as the Yin Yang symbol, representing their contrasting yet complementary natures. We joke that Amethyst, our gentle and sweet cat, enjoys bubblegum pop, while Trixie, with her spirited energy, prefers the intensity of thrash metal.

Though these descriptions are playful, they capture the essence of their distinct personalities. Amethyst is shy and reserved, while Trixie is our exuberant extrovert and life of the party. Through the turbulence of this year, these two cats have been a source of comfort and inspiration. My hope is that everyone can find their own beacon of light that helps them persevere through difficult times.



Majestic Care of Cedar Village

Creative minds and hands at Majestic Care of Cedar Village came together to envision and paint this colorful representation of *Luminosity*. The image combines natural light sources like the sun, moon, stars, and fireflies with candles and fireworks as symbols of celebration. The artists wanted the image to be a source of enchantment, hope, and peace.



Mayerson JCC 60 & Better Center
Art led by: Beth Goldstein
Participating Artists: Ella, Judy, Sue, and Margie

Through the latticework of our 60+ years, shines a *Luminosity* unlike any other. "60 and BETTER": "the better to see you with, m'dear!"

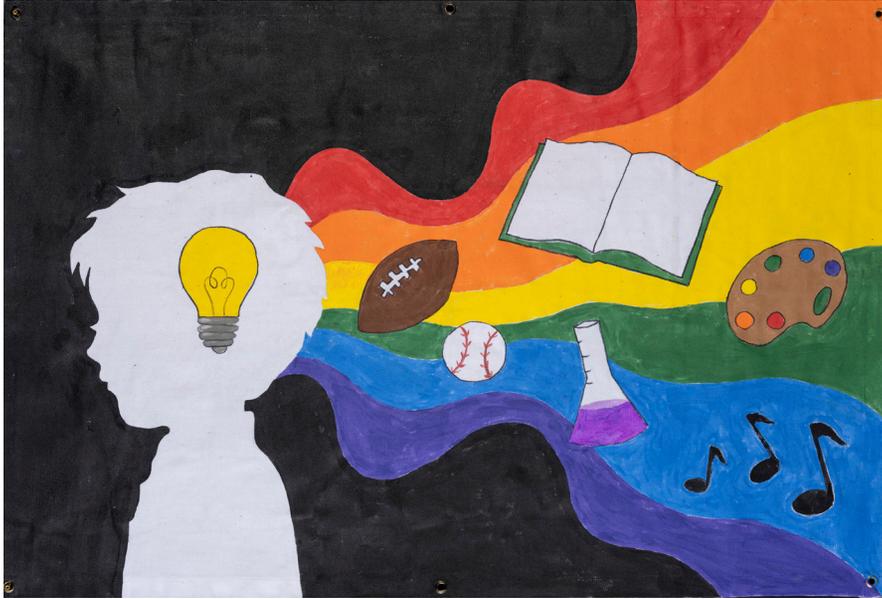
We have the insight of 60+ years of Jewish & faith-guided living; a blessing that allows us so much to offer – just ask us anything! We are in the "light-time" of our bright and beautiful, active, creative, good lives. Why are we too often the only ones to see it? It is clear to us; and we engage and share our luminosity with each other. This makes us 60... and BETTER!

Beth Goldstein is a Cincinnati-based professional studio artist and art educator with a focus on Judaica and Jewish-themed fine art. Recent commissions include a Residents' Recognition Mural at Halom House, the artwork for five new Torah mantles at Rockdale Temple, and custom designed personal talit.

Beth has taught classes in watercolor at the J for the 60 & Better Center for several years and continues as a long-time instructor in watercolor and gouache at the Kennedy Heights Arts Center (KHAC). She earned her master's degree from the Art Academy of Cincinnati after a BS in Fine Art from Brown University.

Beth has curated Judaic-themed exhibits both online and locally, including an inaugural show and community-wide event at KHAC called "About Faith," in celebration of National Jewish Arts month.

This is Beth's first time participating in Under One Roof.



Mayerson JCC After Crew **Art by: Fred Schnell, Youth & Family Manager**

We strive to help students develop skills, make new friends, build self-confidence, and participate in activities that promote Jewish values. We are committed to creating a valuable and safe environment.

Inspiration Overflow

Luminosity is a quality that is visible in the minds of the students at After Crew. It is always exciting to see the light in the eyes of the students when playing their favorite games or learning about their favorite topics. Children have a brightness that is inspiring, and it is very rewarding to be a part of a program that cultivates and encourages discovery and learning. The panel depicts the qualities of the light and color created by a sense of excitement and wonder in children who are enjoying the activities and topics they love.



Mayerson JCC Blue Jays

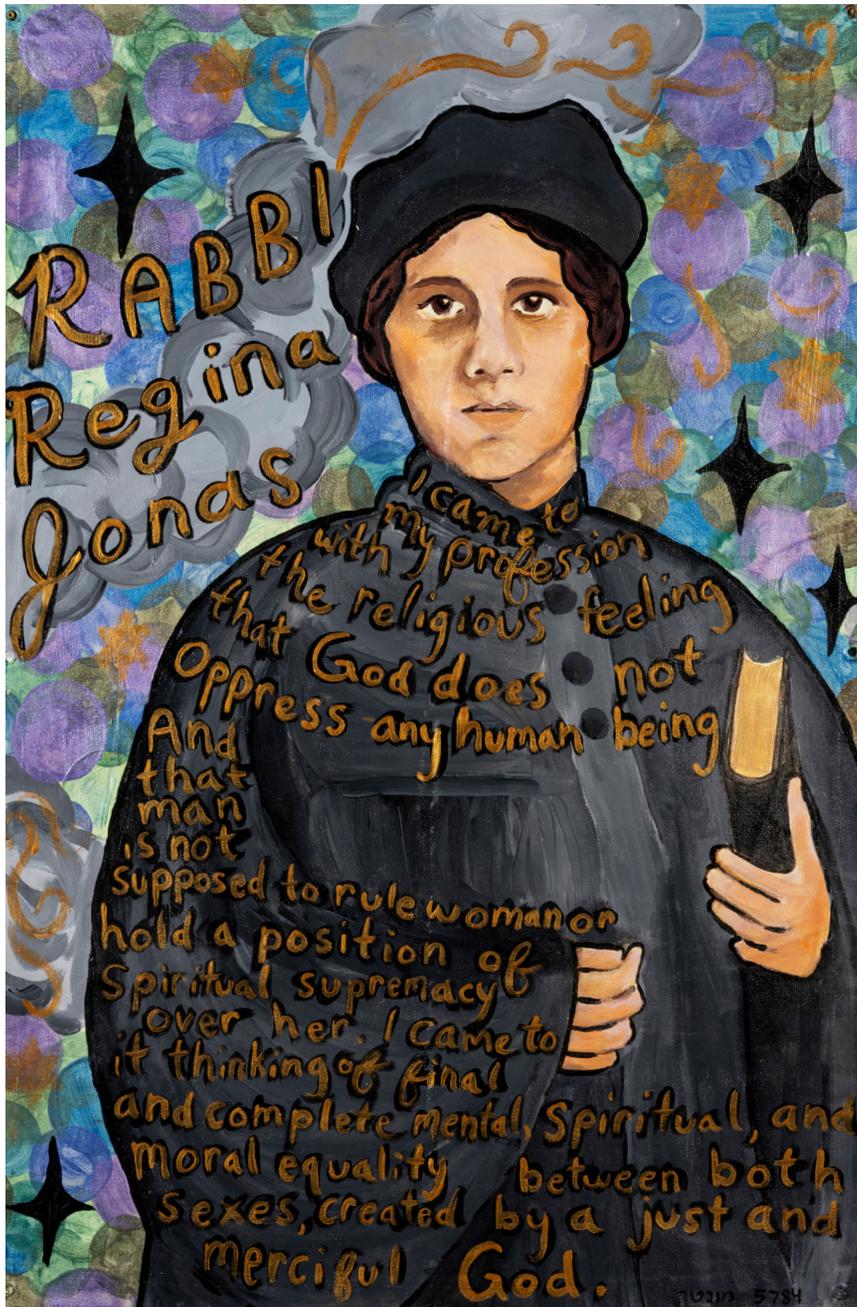
Art by: Mike Creemer, Director of Sports & Recreation

The mission of the JCC Blue Jays Youth Sports Program is the extension of our JCC agency mission of connecting people. As a competitive youth sports program, our connections are not only internal with each other, but external as well. We participate in a basketball league with hundreds of teams, and only the JCC teams and Rockwern teams are Jewish. We participate in a baseball league also with hundreds of teams, and the JCC teams are the only Jewish teams. Therefore, as we compete and connect, we know that we represent not only our teams, but our JCC agency, and larger community as well.

I'm Coach Mike Creemer and have served as the Director of Sports & Recreation for the Mayerson JCC since 2001.

I must admit that *Luminosity* wasn't the easiest theme for me to start the creative process. But after seeing a couple of other JCC program staff working on their panels, I had an idea of what I wanted to do. The panel is based on a photo taken when our Class B Senior baseball team won the division championship this past season with all of the players and coaches holding our awards. We were all so happy to have won with our entire team present!

Luminosity is the state of producing bright light or the state of appearing to shine. I will say that this is what you will see and experience when you attend a JCC Blue Jays baseball game.



Monté Jones

Artist from the Jewish Cultural Mural

Portrait of Rabbi Regina Jonas

This portrait honors Rabbi Regina Jonas (1902 - 1944), the first recorded woman to be ordained as a rabbi. The quote inscribed on the painting is drawn from Jonas's own writings, encapsulating her resilience and wisdom. Inspired by Miriam Schapiro (1923 – 2015), a pioneering feminist artist, celebrated for her vibrant use of color, intricate patterns, and focus on feminine subjects, this piece embodies a theme of *Luminosity*. Rabbi Jonas, as a beacon of leadership, brought light to one of history's darkest periods, the Holocaust, and her legacy continues to shine brightly today.



Most OutGROWing LLC **Art by: Adoria Maxberry**

Most OutGROWing is an organization focused on helping others grow beyond expectations and develop their purpose through the arts. We help inspire, create and grow through art. Visit us at www.mostoutgrowing.com and follow us on socials @mostoutgrowing to learn more.

Radiating the love and light of the Lord is something that we desire to do at all times. Owner and lead artist, Adoria Maxberry's first name literally means "glory." Realizing that there is light within us all that can shine brightly and illuminate the path for others, this piece speaks to that light within. Sparks become flames with the right kindling. May each person realize how they may bring luminosity to the world and shine amidst adversity. Let us light the way.



**Nico Breen (20), Joseph Deters (18),
Cal Burgstrom (17)**
Artists from the Jewish Cultural Mural

The Sun

Our team created this piece after touring the Hebrew Union College – Jewish Institute of Religion and learning about Jewish art and history. The sun and sky are inspired by the works of Lionel Feininger, who painted landscapes in the style of cubism. The subjects in the foreground and the ocean are inspired by Chaim Soutine’s work. The piece is centered around a boat, in which many figures are swimming. Behind it, keeping with the theme of *Luminosity*, is the sun. The subjects are surrounded by a textile art-inspired border inspired by the work of William Boutcher, Lugo, Judy Chicago, and Carol Hamoy.



PJ Library of Cincinnati

PJ Library sends free high-quality Jewish children's books to families every month. These stories spark conversations that inspire the whole family to explore and celebrate what they love about Jewish life.

The program was created by the nonprofit Harold Grinspoon Foundation (HGF) in keeping with its mission to help people connect to Jewish values, traditions, and culture while building vibrant Jewish communities. The HGF partners with local Jewish organizations to fund PJ Library and make it available in their community.

PJ Library programs are now offered in 40 countries. That's over seven million children's books a year being enjoyed by families around the globe. But PJ Library doesn't just send books—it helps families to connect to, experience, and strengthen Jewish community.

Our project embodies the spirit of letting children's imaginations run free. We intentionally minimized adult intervention, allowing the children to express themselves fully through their choices of colors, placements, and personal messages. Over one weekend, 60 children participated in this collaborative effort at three different PJ Library Parent Connector-led events, demonstrating the vibrant community PJ Library of Cincinnati offers to families raising Jewish children.

The central theme of our panel is simple, yet profound: children's handprints, placed in whatever order (or delightful chaos) they chose. Once the paint dried, they were encouraged to reflect on how they could bring more light into the world. A few of our favorite responses are "pick up trash" and "no wars, yes peace," accompanied by drawings of trees, hearts, and other symbols of hope.

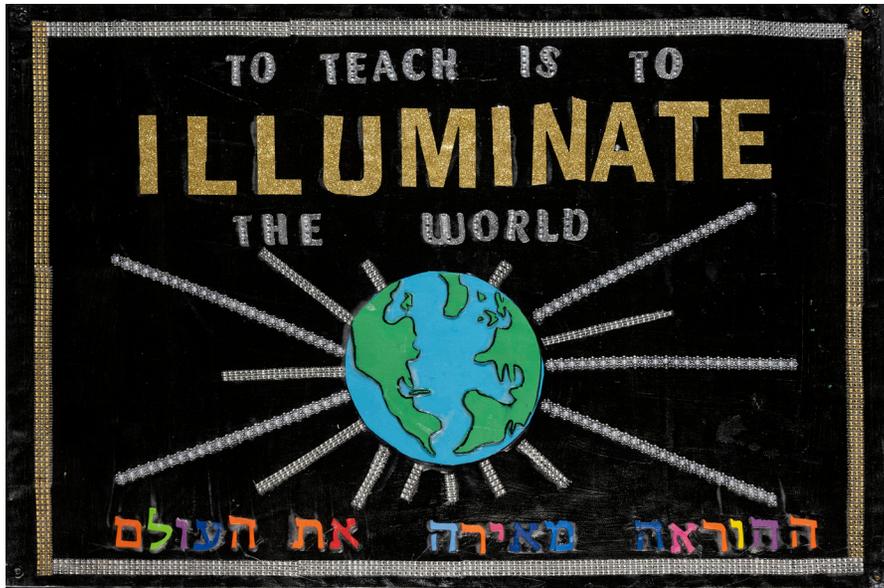
This project is more than just a collection of handprints; it is a testament to the innocence, creativity, and boundless potential of our children to make a difference. We hope this artwork inspires others as much as it has inspired us.



Rockdale Temple

Rockdale Temple Religious School created our panel together on the opening day of Sunday School. With the theme being Luminosity, we immediately thought of the glow of our Shabbat Candles. In Jewish tradition, we light 2 candles each Friday to welcome Shabbat.

The majority of the materials used in making this project were repurposed materials gathered from Cincinnati Recycling and Reuse Hub as well as Scrap it Up.



Rockwern Academy

Art by: Diana Woloshin (Teacher)

Student Participants: Ada Edelstein (4th grade), Jack Dunkelman, Adrian Hunter, and Izzy Rantz (7th grade)

At Rockwern Academy, our mission is to expand minds, celebrate Judaism, nurture community, and commit to building a better world. Each day, we see how children's minds are illuminated and how, through teaching and learning together, we help illuminate the world. We are proud of our Rockwern students and educators who spread light throughout the community.

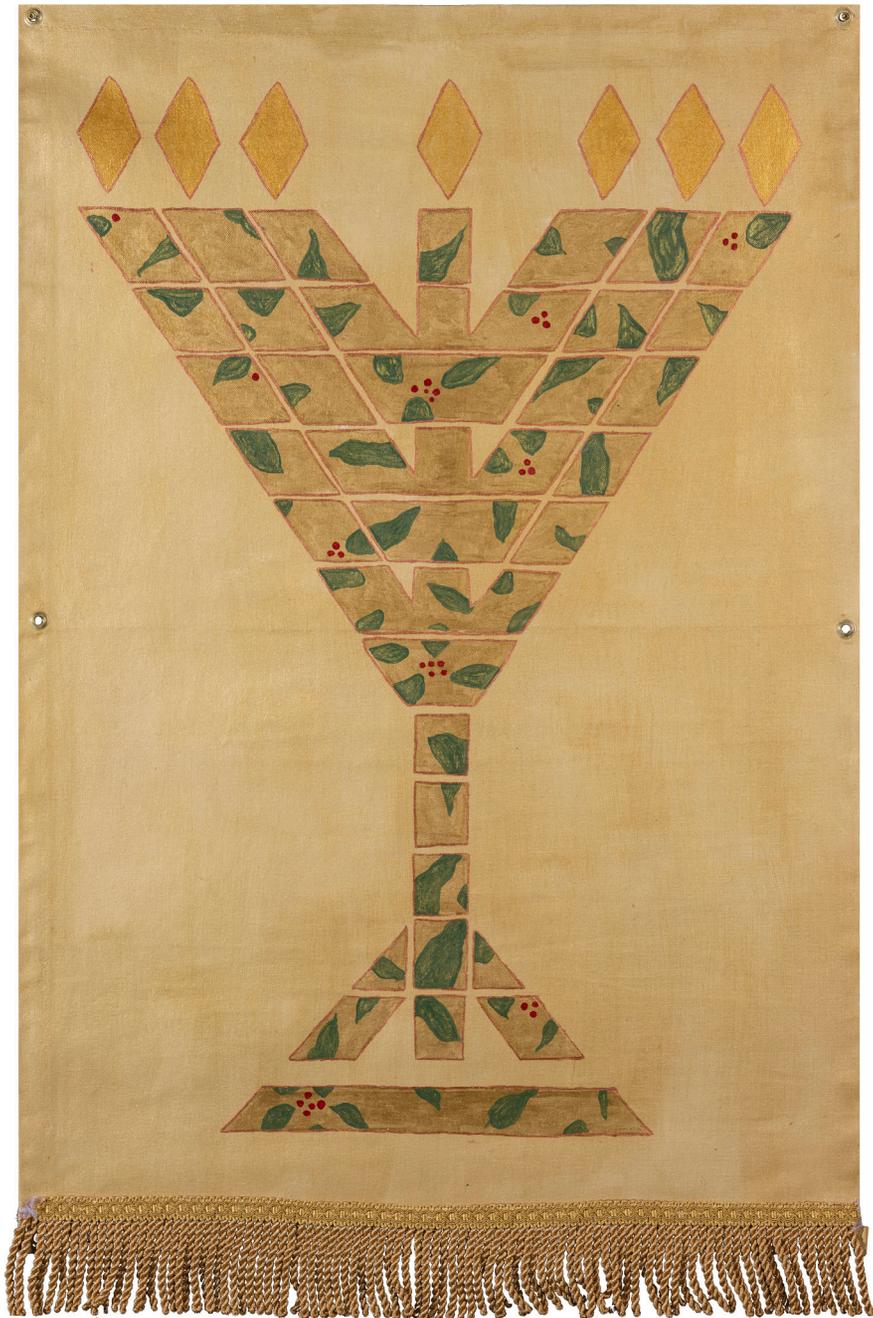
Scott Jankowski

My artwork comes through the learned experiences and relationships from human to human. Living with a disability and finding alternate ways in life, I constantly push forward to realize the beauty and sorrow through all people, from the aesthetic to the essential meanings in our lives.

“A land of wheat, and barley, and vines, and fig trees and pomegranates; a land of olive oil and (date) honey.” Deut. 8:8

These seven species reflect the importance and holiness of the staple foods from the land of Israel. Using acrylic and house paints to convey the value of the crops through the resilience of the weather conditions, the first wild fruits and grains offered to the temple and our prayers during the holidays of Shavuot, Rosh Hashanah and Sukkot. Simple light and a flow of the cultural foods in transcendence around the glow of the dates brings beauty to this mystical place.





Sherry Erb

The Torah, the cornerstone of our spiritual and ethical guidance, symbolizes more than divine instruction; it represents an ever-present light illuminating the path of our existence. Each verse, with its intricate layers of meaning and interpretation, acts as a beacon in our daily lives.

“For a commandment is a candle, and the Torah is light...” Mishlei 6:23

The term “Ohr Ein Sof” (the infinite light) refers to the divine light that emanates from God and infuses creation. The light of the Torah is not merely metaphorical but represents the actual divine energy that sustains and enlivens creation.

This artistic piece is a replica of the parochet that covers the Aron Kodesh at Chabad in Blue Ash, Ohio.



Stacie Hecht

I am a mom of two amazing boys. I work a corporate job by day and design jewelry to bring additional light and joy into my life.

I love to create sparkly statement jewelry using a variety of techniques and media. I used my beaded jewelry and mosaics as inspiration for my panel. My goal was to bring 3D jewelry to life on a 2D canvas.

We should all aim to, "leave a little sparkle wherever we go."

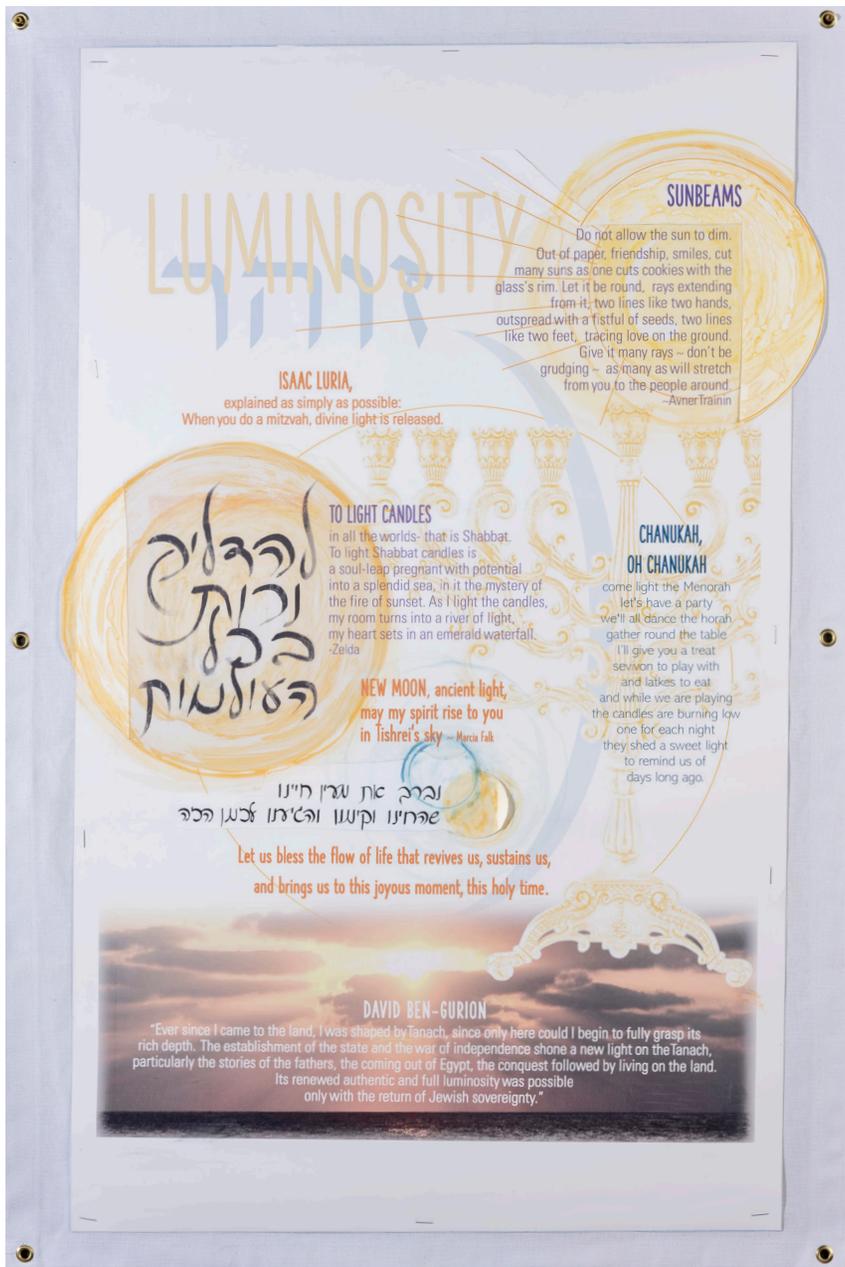


Susan Klug Kahan

Within the darkness, what brings light?

The theme *Luminosity* brought to my mind sources of light and hope and positivity. I showed those as images spreading light, breaking through the darkness, which can symbolize any darkness an individual feels. Note a sunrise and a rainbow, as well as images specifically representing Jewish tradition.

I have enjoyed creating artwork for Under One Roof since it was opened up to individual artists. I showcase my current work at www.susanklugkahan.com.



Temple Sholom Art by: Donna Tukel

Luminosity immediately made me think of light, radiance and glow, all imagery of candles and the moon. These themes came easily due to the beauty and spirituality connected to them. The sun also played a part when I found a lovely poem about sunbeams connecting people to one another.

The candles of Shabbat, holidays and Chanukah are in the forefront of our minds when we think about rituals in Jewish practice. The poem by Zelda is one of my favorites about Shabbat as it lets the candlelight run wild. The broken vessels in Luria's writing still hold light waiting to be released and the land of Israel has an illumination all its own. It is quite a miracle.

I enjoy the universalism of the writings of Marcia Falk and found her Rosh Chodesh blessing to be perfect. The use of circles throughout the illustration were, for me, sunspots— reminders of the intensity and beauty of the light in our lives.

I have been creating these panels for Temple Sholom for several years now and, of all the topics, I enjoyed *Luminosity* the most.



Theatre at J

Art by: Eliana Rantz, Theatre Director

Theatre at the J provides an outlet for creative expression, and creates a safe space for children to find their place in the arts community, all while forming lifelong friendships and strong connections within the community.

Theatre at the J has seen incredible growth since its inception in January 2022. We currently run multiple children's classes with the hope of expansion in the future. Our students perform a play in the fall and a musical in the spring. Our recent musical, *Moana JR.*, showcased 40 actors and saw over 700 people in the audience. I am blessed that I get to create art with the theatre students. Our program strives to make theatre and the creative arts dynamic, immersive, inclusive, and accessible to all.

Our wonderful artist, Dave Bushle, sketched out my vision of illuminating performers on the stage. Fred Schnell and I infused color and texture into the design, making the stage lights pop. The spotlights shining down on the stage represent the luminosity that our actors feel when performing in a show.



**Twon Brown (18), Sam Reinbach (16),
Kelsey Gallagher (18), Sloane Lipson (16)**
Artists from the Jewish Cultural Mural

As the artists of this work, we researched three Jewish artists, Mort Gerberg, Krasner, and EL Lissitzky, to devise a design that reflects the idea or vision of light, combining their styles and influences from our visit to the Skirball Museum. We decided to go a more abstract route and depict an eye as the sun with its rays casting down over the world to show that light touches all.

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The mission of the Under One Roof Sukkah Art Exhibit is to create community, connection, and conversation. The artworks and statements created and submitted are those of the participants; they do not necessarily reflect the views and opinions of the Mayerson JCC, staff, board, sponsors, or volunteers.