



MAYERSON JCC
of Cincinnati

MayersonJCC.org/UnderOneRoof
#ARTU1R



On Display

September 24 - October 5, 2026

Under One Roof Art Reception

Wednesday, September 30 | 7 - 8pm

Presenting
Sponsor:



ROCKWERN
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Strengthening Jewish Cincinnati

Jewish Foundation
of Cincinnati





Your artwork will be part of this collaborative show representing nearly 50 local participants on display in the community sukkah at the Mayerson JCC from September 24 - October 5.

Again this year, we hope to engage individuals and community groups in creating art around their interpretation of this year's central theme, *Chai*. Encourage your family/friends/patrons/stakeholders to lend their creativity to this incredible display.

Creating a work of art is a journey. To us, that journey is just as important as the final product itself. When an idea comes together or people collaborate to explore ways of understanding a theme, something special happens and a story often develops. We want to know your story! Please submit an artist statement with your canvas.

Thank you!

For program information and questions:

Eowyn Garfinkle Plymesser, Manager of Arts & Culture
egarfinkle@mayersonjcc.org

DATES TO REMEMBER

Participant Info Tabling Sessions: Tuesday, June 16 from 9am - 12pm and Wednesday, June 24 from 1 - 4pm

Join for one of these tabling sessions to kick off this project, ask questions, start your brainstorm, and receive your canvas!

Completed Artwork & Artist Statement Deadline: August 17

Completed artwork must be returned and artist statements submitted by August 17. Please complete your artist statement at MayersonJCC.org/UnderOneRoof.

Also, submit your supply receipts via email or with your artwork for reimbursement (up to \$50). Please label any physical receipts with your name.

Photos will be taken of your artwork for publicity and archival purposes. **Artwork and artist statements turned in after August 17 are not guaranteed to be included in our artist booklet or exhibit.**

Exhibition Dates: September 24 - October 5

The Sukkah Art Show, *Chai*, will be on display in the community sukkah* in the Mayerson JCC courtyard. It is free and open to the public during JCC business hours.

Art Reception: September 30 at 7pm

Enjoy an evening with community, art, and food as we celebrate the festival of Sukkot*. Visit the Under One Roof reception between 7 - 8pm to enjoy a nosh, artwork, and conversation. Multimedia panels from nearly fifty community participants exploring this year's theme, *Chai*, will be highlighted.

Artwork Return Pick-Up Deadline: November 6

Please retrieve your artwork by November 6.

Completed canvases will not be able to be kept past this date.

Please coordinate pick-up arrangements with Manager of Arts & Culture, Eowyn Garfinkle Plymesser.

**This art exhibit is in celebration of Sukkot, the Jewish harvest festival. Sukkot is observed by building a temporary dwelling called a sukkah and focuses on welcoming guests, caring for the environment, and taking time to be joyful.*

CREATING YOUR MASTERPIECE

Design your canvas to reflect your interpretation of the theme, *Chai*.

The artworks in the 2026 Under One Roof exhibit will explore the meaning we find in life. We have arrived at this theme from diverse points of inspiration:

This theme was inspired by 2026 being our JCC's 18th building anniversary. The JCC is a place that values growth (*tzmichah*), belonging (*shayahut*), and hospitality (*hachnasat orchim*).

Chai is the Hebrew word for life. In Hebrew, each letter has a numerical value, and the two letters that make up the word, *chet* and *yud*, add up to the number 18. Because of this, the number 18 holds great significance in Jewish tradition.

As we celebrate this milestone, we contemplate how this building, and the people within it, have transformed and flourished.

What brings the JCC to life after 18 years in this building? Our answer – **the community that calls this place home.**

We toast *l'chaim* to everyone who has shaped our JCC space in the past 18 years and beyond – *to life!*

As we take in the radiance of the stars in the night sky above our sukkah, the artworks in the 2026 Under One Roof exhibit will explore what *chai* means to them.

What does *chai* mean to you? What brings meaning to your life?

This theme is intentionally open-ended. We look forward to your creativity!

If artwork does not follow the guidelines or is deemed inappropriate, the Mayerson JCC reserves the right to not display artwork, at its discretion.

Art Guidelines:

You may use any medium to decorate your canvas (see the adjacent Helpful Tips page for ideas), but be aware of the weight of the piece and the fact that it must withstand the elements.

The orientation of the canvas – portrait or landscape – is up to you.

On the back, please indicate the top of the piece, so it can be hung correctly.

Please also put your name on the reverse side, lower left corner of your canvas. This will help us keep track of your art.

Please coat both sides of your canvas well with Mod Podge or another acrylic sealant to protect it from the weather, especially if gluing photos or paper. These artworks will be displayed inside our sukkah, which stands outdoors in the JCC Courtyard. Canvas panels will be exposed to the elements.

Do not put your logo or name on the front of your canvas. The JCC will create identification placards to hang next to each canvas that will recognize the participant, share your Artist Statement, and a brief description of your organization (if applicable).

You will be reimbursed up to \$50 for materials. Don't forget to save your receipts and submit them (labeled with your name) with your completed canvas. As a nonprofit organization, we are unable to reimburse for tax charges.

Have fun!

HELPFUL TIPS AND TRICKS

Over the years, we've discovered some tips & tricks to help you along the way.

All mediums look great on the canvas, but we've found that canvases that include heavier materials, such as found objects, can prevent appropriate hanging. September/October can be a rainy time of year. **Please coat both sides of your canvas with Mod Podge or an acrylic sealant to protect the images from the weather.**

These materials work well on your canvas:

- Acrylic paints
- Permanent markers
- Paint markers
- Fabric paints or markers
- Thread
- Puffy Paint
- Photo transfer fabric

Consider using hot glue to adhere the following:

- Sequins
- Gemstones
- Fabric
- Felt
- Ribbon

You can find great art materials and inspiration at:

- Michaels
- Plaza Artist Materials
- Suders Art Store
- Indigo Hippo
- Scrap It Up
- United Art & Education

Be creative! Any style of art is welcome.



WHAT IS SUKKOT?

Sukkot, the fall harvest festival, is named after the booths or huts in which Jews are supposed to “live” during this week-long holiday. The booths are a physical reminder of the flimsy houses in which the Israelites lived during the 40-year journey through the desert toward the land of Israel. Eating and living in this temporary structure – called a sukkah – helps people focus on the important things in life and helps one separate from material possessions. Because Sukkot is also a harvest festival, it is considered an especially happy and festive time.

Sukkot begins five days after Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement.

This year, sukkot is celebrated from sundown on Friday evening, September 25 - October 2, 2026.

A sukkah is a temporary structure with at least three sides and a roof made of thatch or branches. The roof should provide some shade or protection from the sun, but still allow you to see the stars at night. A sukkah can be built out of wood, fabric, tarps, metal, or anything else you happen to have lying around the house. Traditionally, the sukkah is decorated with everything from posters to gourds to paper chains. Meals are eaten in the sukkah (weather permitting) and many people choose to sleep there, too.

The lulav (a bundle of willow, palm, and myrtle branches) and **etrog** (a citrus fruit that looks similar to a lemon) are ritual objects that are used only during Sukkot. Held together, the lulav and etrog are waved in the four directions while reciting a special blessing. The act represents, among other things, life, rebirth, and respect for the earth.



WE LOVE TO SEE YOU ON SOCIAL MEDIA!

To help promote this project, share photos of your artwork (in progress or completed) or a link to our Under One Roof webpage on your own social media platforms.

Here are some sample captions you can use:

- *This year, [my/our/participant name's] participated in the @MayersonJCC's Under One Roof community sukkah art exhibit. Taking inspiration from [artist/place/idea], our canvas represents [your ideas here]. #artU1R*
- *Check out our canvas in Under One Roof at the @MayersonJCC, now through 10/5. [We/Participant name] join(s) with community to create this annual Sukkot art exhibit. #artU1R*
- *Check out [my/our/participant name's] artwork in this year's Under One Roof Sukkah Art Exhibit at the @MayersonJCC. #artU1R*

You will receive flyers and graphics to help you spread the word.



THANK YOU TO OUR 2025 PARTICIPANTS!

Adath Israel Jarson
Education Center - Kitah
Aleph

Adrienne Varady

Alexandra Avelino

Amberley Village Human
Rights Commission

Anjella Martini

Ayelet Jankowski

Bazya Ovrutsky,
Holocaust Survivor

Center for Holocaust
Survivors, Russian Jewish
Cultural Center

Caleb Rohrs & Mommy

Camp at the J

Camp Livingston

Chaverim M'Israel

Cincinnati Community
Mikveh

Clara Rohrs

Congregation Etz Chaim

Congregation Zichron
Eliezer

Cultural Centre of India

Elana Kuperstein Rosen

Hillel at Miami University

Holocaust Survivors
from Cedar Village

The Jacob Rader Marcus
Center of the American
Jewish Archives

Jewish Cemeteries of
Greater Cincinnati

JVS Careers

Karla Bailey, JCC Youth
Sports Coach

Lizzie Kibler Wallace

Lola Smolyansky

Majestic Care of Cedar
Village

Mayerson JCC Blue
Jays

Mayerson JCC Fitness
& Friends

Michael Feldman
Purcell

Mikey Frank

Miri Sigel

PJ Library of Cincinnati

Rockdale Temple

Rockwern Academy

Scott Jankowski

Transform Cincy

Yuliya Avelino

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and The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati.

Thank you to our annual Arts & Ideas Sponsors:
The Rockwern Charitable Foundation, Jean E. Feinberg,
The Friedlander Family, Jen & John Stein

[MayersonJCC.org/UnderOneRoof](https://www.MayersonJCC.org/UnderOneRoof)

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