The Jews of Summer: What Was Yiddish Summer Camp Really Like?

After the Holocaust, about half a dozen American Jewish campagna emerged. Yiddish campagna were their margans and revolutionaries as a way of strengthening their Jewish identity.

Join us as we speak to Suki Steiner, author of the new book The Jews of Summer: Yiddish Summer Camp and American Culture in Postwar America, which describes the effect this cultural milieu had on the young Americans who spent their summers there.

We’ll also hear what the experience was like from three people who came of age in a Yiddish summer camp. Illustrator and musician Judd Tizayco who attended Camp RebbeLach for 12 years, and two people from Camp B’nai Emunah—George Roffers who was there for 14 summers, and Yiddish singer-songwriter Jessica Hoffer. They’ll share.

This event is supported by a generous grant in memory of Rabbi R.B. Pollock. 

REGISTER →

Playing Anne Frank in Chicago and New York

The Diary of Anne Frank, which debuted on Broadway in 1955 and then later toured the country, was one of the most influential plays of the 20th century, and a life-changing experience for so many of us who were introduced millions of Americans to the Holocaust and its victims. But what did remastering Anne’s story mean to the people who created and acted in the play or the 1955 film? In this conversation, we’ll reflect on her life effect their lives and careers. Who were they?

Using archival material and interviews with survivors and crew members, Financial Times culture editor Adam Langer recently created a podcast to tell a story that’s never been told. Join Adam in conversation with educators, journalists and the actors themselves online and around the country to learn more and hear firsthand the stories behind the scenes.

MARCH 23
10:30 AM CST
CHICAGO

From a Chicago Novel to Podcast: Adam Langer Takes You Behind the Scenes of Playing Anne Frank

Chris Jones, cultural page editor and chief drama critic of the Chicago Tribune will chat with Adam Langer, author of the Forward’s Playing Anne Frank podcast, about the history of the play, which inspired both the podcast and his novel, Cyieder, which was nominated for one of the best novels off the year by the Chicago Tribune. Join us at the Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center in Skokie, Illinois, for this dynamic conversation about an iconic piece of work which transformed Holocaust education and perception.

REGISTER →

SUNDAY APRIL 2, 2023
2 P.M. E.P.T.
HVC & O ORH

Behind the Curtain: Actors from The Diary, 70 Years Later

What’s it like to be among the first to tell the story of The Diary of Anne Frank? Pire Reifkind and Bmee Pess, who played Anne Frank and Ben Van Daan in the original Broadway production, and Pechik Halev, who played Anne Frank on a u.k. American tour, will each share how they changed their lives. Their conversation, moderated by Adam Langer, will mark the first time these artists have appeared onstage together in nearly 70 years.

REGISTER →

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