

many shades, one tradition

The JMN Newsletter: המון גוונים, מסורת אחת

JMN Newsletter, Vol. 6, 18th of Kislev, 5773/Thanksgivukkah 2013

Message from the President



Happy Thanksgivukkah from the Jewish Multiracial Network! We hope everyone had a wonderful High Holiday Season. As we progress into the Thanksgiving and Chanukah season we as an organization have so much to be thankful for...

The first are three dynamic new board members, Kalilah Chaya Watson, Erika Davis, and Ellen Berkowitz. Each of them is an accomplished, dynamic, and engaged woman who is strongly committed to issues related to Jewish diversity.

The amazing JMN community-- over the last couple of months JMN members have hosted several events across the Northeast, volunteered on JMN led initiatives, and we've seen increased enthusiasm for advocacy efforts. Leading such a wonderful community is truly a privilege and I am thankful for your continued support, enthusiasm, and dedication.

We are also thankful for continued conversations on Jewish diversity. JMN always welcomes opportunities to work with congregations wishing to work on inclusion. We recently facilitated a conversation on privilege, creating welcoming spaces, and Jewish diversity at The Jewish Center in Princeton, NJ. Please check out the following article, <http://www.njewishnews.com/article/18722/couple-seek-inclusion-for-multiracial-jews#.Uo17LMRJOAh> on the event and the JMN member who initiated it. If you're interested in bringing similar conversations to your synagogue or organization please contact us at info@jewishmultiracialnetwork.org.

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Diversity Dvar

WHEN HOLIDAYS MERGE

This year much is being made of the fact that the first night of Chanukah falls on Thanksgiving. It's been dubbed Thanksgivukkah and other such cute names by various media sources. Everyone's talking about it, Jewish or not. However, this great occasion (not to happen again for another 70,000 years) provides an opportunity to reflect on the connection between the two holidays. Both holidays are expressions of thanks. Thanksgiving is a celebration of continued physical sustenance and survival while Chanukah is inherently a spiritual celebration of the survival of Judaism. The Chanukah miracle represents the ability of Judaism to survive despite the twin issues of persecution and assimilation. In America while we offer gratitude on Thanksgiving for the free society which allows us each to practice our religion freely and openly, we must also acknowledge the challenge that exists in maintaining our Jewish identities. The Pew Study and a plethora of recent articles digest and discuss the challenges facing Jewish continuity. This Thanksgiving presents us with a unique opportunity to reflect as American Jews and remind ourselves that the true miracle of Chanukah was the affirmation of our Jewish identity. May we all use this Thanksgivukkah as an opportunity to both give thanks and recommit to our community.

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Hanukkah Recipe

PUMPKIN DONUTS
From kingofflour.com
<http://www.kingarthurfLOUR.com/recipes/pumpkin-cake-doughnuts-recipe>

Servings
Yields 12 doughnuts or 15 muffins

Ingredients

Our Social Media

- [Like us on Facebook](#)
- [Follow us on Twitter @JewishDiversity](#)

JMN Annual Retreat

Great Success!

The 2013 JMN Annual Retreat was a great success! Be on the lookout for more information related to year-round programming in your local area.

Our Newsletter

"Hamon G'vanim, Masoret Achat"

This name spoke to us as it reflects our commitment to the diversity of our Jewish community. Regardless of the shade of one's skin, language one speaks, or level of observance... we all have a space in the Jewish community and our communities should reflect and respect that diversity. We hope that this newsletter will not only be a source of communication to our membership from the leadership, but an avenue for us to share in each other's simchas (joyous occasions) and pivotal milestones.

Please feel free to contact us with kudos or comments, or if you would like to contribute to the newsletter at manysadesonetradition@gmail.com.

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1/2 cup vegetable oil
3 large eggs
1 1/2 cups granulated sugar
1 1/2 cups pumpkin purée (canned pumpkin)
1 1/2 teaspoons pumpkin pie spice, or 3/4 teaspoon ground cinnamon plus heaping 1/4 teaspoon each ground nutmeg and ground ginger
1 1/2 teaspoons salt
1 1/2 teaspoons baking powder
3/4 cups + 2 tablespoons King Arthur Unbleached All-Purpose Flour
3 tablespoons cinnamon-sugar

Directions

- 1) Preheat the oven to 350°F. Lightly grease two standard doughnut pans. If you don't have doughnut pans, you can bake these in a standard muffin tin; they just won't be doughnuts.
- 2) Beat together the oil, eggs, sugar, pumpkin, spices, salt, and baking powder until smooth.
- 3) Add the flour, stirring just until smooth.
- 4) Fill the wells of the doughnut pans about 3/4 full; use a scant 1/4 cup of batter in each well. If you're making muffins, fill each well about 3/4 full; the recipe makes about 15, so you'll need to bake in two batches (unless you have two muffin pans).
- 5) Bake the doughnuts for 15 to 18 minutes, or until a cake tester inserted into the center of one comes out clean. If you're making muffins, they'll need to bake for 23 to 25 minutes.
- 6) Remove the doughnuts from the oven, and after about 5 minutes, loosen their edges, and transfer them to a rack to cool.
- 7) While the doughnuts are still warm (but no longer fragile), gently shake them in a bag with the cinnamon-sugar. If you've made muffins, sprinkle their tops heavily with cinnamon-sugar.
- 8) Cool completely, and store (not wrapped tight) at room temperature for several days.

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Jewish Learning Corner

WHEN AND WHERE TO LIGHT THE MENORAH

The preferable time to light the menorah is at nightfall. It is best to light in the presence of many people, which maximizes the mitzvah of "publicizing the miracle" and adds to the family atmosphere. The menorah can still be lit (with the blessings) late into the night, as long as people are still awake.

On the first night, place one candle at the far right, as you face the menorah. This applies whether the menorah is placed next to a doorway or by a window. Another candle is placed for the Shamash (taller helper candle) which is used to light the others. It is not counted as one of the candles. Ashkenazim: first light the Shamash, then recite the blessings. Sephardim: first recite the blessings, then light the candles. Use the Shamash to light the Chanukah candle. On the second night, place two candles in the two far-right positions — and use the Shamash to light the left one first.

The third night, place three candles in the three far-right positions — and use the Shamash to light them in order, from left to right...

The same general process applies for oil menorahs.

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Volunteer with JMN

Interested in becoming more active in JMN? Email us at info@jewishmultiracialnetwork.org

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Local Events

New York City

Come get the Hanukkah festivities started a little early with JMN tonight (11/21/2013)! Join us at Art Bar in the West Village (NYC) for drinks, conversation, and fun with fellow JMN members from 5:30PM to 8:30 PM. ** Happy hour special is half price on all draft beer, well drinks, and house wine and lasts until 7PM.

Art Bar is located Between Horatio & Jane on the East Side of Eighth Avenue (two blocks south of 14th Street)

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Communal News

Mazal tov to **Shais Rison and Gulienne Rollins-Rison** on the birth of a baby girl, **Gadiella**

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