

Library Light

ASSOCIATION OF JEWISH LIBRARIES OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA

SUMMER, 1985

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE

BUREAU OF JEWISH EDUCATION

SUMMER INSTITUTE

DATE: Monday, August 19, Tuesday, August 20, Wednesday, August 21.

PLACE: TEMPLE EMANUEL
8844 Burton Way
Beverly Hills

OF SPECIAL INTEREST TO LIBRARIANS

READERS THEATRE - LITERATURE AND DRAMA IN YOUR CLASSROOM

Participants will be actively involved in planned and creative dramatics in the classroom, utilizing Jewish stories, folktales, poetry, humor, letters, and Sayings of the Fathers. Curricular activities for Yom Kippur and Sukkot will be highlighted. Collections of dramatized stories, folktales, poetry, and other useful materials will be distributed. For students ages 9 through high school. New materials and methods.

Facilitator: HAVA BEN-ZVI

TIME: Tuesday, August 20 9:15 - 10:30 A.M.

There will be other useful sessions. Wednesday, August 21 - Early Childhood Day.

Please pre-register through your school principal.

For further information call (213) 852-1234 Ext. 3202.

SYDNEY TAYLOR AWARDS

After a whirlwind of workshops, lectures, and discussion sessions that filled the 20th annual convention of the Association of Jewish Libraries, the AJL presented the annual awards for the best Jewish juvenile books.

Miriam Chaikin was recognized for her fine continuing contribution to Jewish literature for children. Her delightful series about Molly, a young girl living in a New York apartment in the 40's, has charmed and enlightened many a young reader. Yossi, a mischievous Hassidic lad, stars in HOW YOSHI BEAT THE EVIL URGE and YOSHI ASKS THE ANGELS FOR HELP . (Harper & Row Publishers) Ms. Chaikin's books on the Jewish holidays (Clarion Books) are beautifully written, clear, and informative.

MRS. MOSKOWITZ AND THE SABBATH CANDLESTICKS, written and illustrated by Amy Schwartz, (Jewish Publication Society) received the award in the picture book category. THE ISLAND ON BIRD STREET, written by Uri Orlev and translated from the Hebrew by Hillel Halkin (Houghton Mifflin Publishers) was honored as the outstanding book for older children. The Hebrew edition of the book has already received several honors.

This year, the prizes, renamed the Sydney Taylor Awards, include a substantial cash award for each of the authors. A fund named for the late Mrs. Taylor, who entertained generations of readers with her books about the "All-of-a-Kind Family", will continue to provide financial encouragement to authors of fine books for Jewish children. A selected list of this year's contenders, "Jewish Children's Books Too Good To Miss", can be ordered from the AJL c/o Merrily F. Hart, Fairmount Temple Library, 23737 Fairmount Blvd., Cleveland, Ohio 44122.

New this year is the Jewish Reference Award, given to Dr. Louis Feldman for his excellent scholarly study, JOSEPHUS AND MODERN SCHOLARSHIP (Walter de Gruyter Publishers).

Judith Greenblatt, head of the juvenile awards committee, presented the Sydney Taylor Book Awards at the convention banquet, June 25th in Cleveland, Ohio. Sara Levy, Yeshiva University, presented the Reference Book Award.

--Merrily F. Hart
AJL Publicity Director

NEWS TO NOTEJEWISH QUESTION

The heading "Jewish question" was cancelled from LCSH on February 15, 1984. No replacement heading is proposed. Instead, a see reference will appear in the 1984 supplement as follows:

Jewish question
see
Jews--[place], other subdivisions under the heading
Jews, and related topics

Because the heading "Jewish question" had been assigned to a wide variety of materials, each work will have to be recatalogued based on a reanalysis of the subject matter. In most cases, the heading "Jews--[place]" will be a satisfactory replacement.

--From LC Cataloging Service Bulletin

AN AMENDMENT TO AN ABRIDGEMENT

Last month part of the review of Davita's Harp was inadvertently omitted. We are reprinting the entire review at this time.

Potok, Chaim. Davita's Harp. New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1985. 371pp. \$16.95.

Potok has authored another winning novel, beautifully written and portraying characters with sensitivity, humaneness, and depth. His protagonist is a young girl, a first in his books.

Davita is the daughter of a Gentile father and a Jewish mother who no longer feels close to her European Orthodox background. Intellectuals, writers, communists, their interests are the world of the underdog, the disenfranchised, the suffering. Thus it was that their young daughter grew up in the 1930s conscious of a world in which death, destruction, and disappointment were paramount.

Reading her father's newspaper reports from Spain during the Spanish Civil War and hearing the discussions of her mother's friends during the constant meetings in their apartment instilled in the child an awareness of people, places, and events and an interest in the world that usually come only with greater maturity.

As a very small child she was a wanderer, so it was natural that her curiosity led her to follow a friend to the synagogue, to peek in and ultimately to want to participate in services. When her mother found out that she was also being given books about Jesus Christ from her religious aunt, her only comment was, "You'll find your own way."

And so Davita does find her own way through the sorrow and pathos of her life, with the help of a probing, analytical mind. The manner in which she resolves the fears and questions she has about life and a world which can cause so much heart-break form the focus of the book.

An enchanting, moving story, it will on one hand bring one close to Orthodox Judaism and make one want to cherish and nourish it, while on the other create dissatisfaction with its rigidity, its control, and its restrictions where women are concerned.

--Muriel Moster, Volunteer
Sinai Temple Library

MARK YOUR CALENDARSAUGUST

19-21

Bureau of Jewish Education Summer Institute

SEPTEMBER

9

Board Meeting in Adaire Klein's house at 7 P.M.

OCTOBER

14

General Meeting - Sinai Temple - 7 P.M.
10400 Wilshire Blvd., L.A. (213) 474-1518

MINORITY SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM CONTINUES

State Librarian Gary E. Strong recently announced the continuation of the Minority Scholarship Program for 1985-86. A total of \$50,000 in LSCA funds is being made available to minority students enrolled in or accepted for graduate studies in library and information science at an accredited library school in California. Individual scholarships as high as \$5,000 are available during the 1985-86 academic year.

Eight public libraries have agreed to provide assistance in the recruitment effort. Santa Cruz City-County, San Francisco Public, Inglewood Public, Riverside City-County, Los Angeles Public, San Jose, San Diego, and Solano County Libraries will act as sponsors in the coming academic year by identifying and accepting applications from current and potential students.

The graduate library schools at San Jose State University, UCLA, and UC Berkeley will identify and sponsor a minority student that is now or will be pursuing a specialized field in public librarianship.

Additional information is available at any of the aforementioned locations or from Martin Gomez, Ethnic Minority Services Consultant for the State Library at (916) 322-0371.

MORE NEWS TO NOTE

Looking for another source of books with Jewish content?

Write:

Farrar, Straus and Giroux
19 Union Square
West New York, New York 10003

Request: A Jewish Book List.

--Submitted by Dorothy Steiner
Temple Akiba Librarian

CONGRATULATIONS!

It's a girl! Fran Shuster became a grandmother for the second time on July 5th. Since the baby decided to be early, Fran is grateful that she arrived before the Shusters left for their trip to the Orient.

AJLSC LIBRARY LIGHT is distributed free to AJLSC members.

EDITORS: Joan Buchbinder,
Jan Sherman,

Copy submitted should be typed.