

יום
ירושלמי
יום י"א (אחר)

يوم القدس بعيون المقدسيين
ירושלמים יוצרים את יום ירושלים

Jerusalemite Day of Diversity

May 9-10, 2021



הקרן לירושלים
مؤسسة صندوق القدس
THE JERUSALEM FOUNDATION



مركز الحوار بين الثقافات في القدس
המרכז הבין-תרבותי לירושלים
The Jerusalem Intercultural Center

Background

This was the sixth year in which thousands of Jerusalemites took part in **Jerusalemite Day of Diversity** events. Since many events were online due to the pandemic, events were open to anyone interested worldwide. This year's festivities included 100 events – 50 events held by Jerusalemite activists and 50 neighborhood encounters between neighbors during Jerusalem Day, emphasizing the grassroots action that makes for a diverse and multicultural Jerusalem.

Each initiative was completely autonomous; the activists were those who dreamed, led, and created. The JICC provided logistical, strategic, and at times, financial support, but remained completely behind the scenes, assisting where necessary and providing the framework for echoing the authentic Jerusalem voices that call for tolerance and diversity in our complex city.

This year, Jerusalemite Day of Diversity took place against the background of a number of significant influencers:

- **In the shadow of Covid-19:** Over the past year work to advance tolerance looked very different than before. The Covid-dictated pace was different, the issues were different. Many organizations' budgets had shrunk, limiting their staff and programming; as Jerusalemite Day neared, some organizations were bringing back staff that had been furloughed, and they were just transitioning back into their positions. In parallel, Covid made us focus inward – not on the entire city but on our neighborhoods, and thus there was an increased focus on neighborhood-based activity – connections between neighbors, within buildings and in close physical proximity, creating a sense of social solidarity.
- **Mt. Meron Disaster on Lag B'Omer** on April 29 had a huge impact on the ultra-Orthodox sector in particular, and on Israeli society in general. There was an overriding desire to show support for and identification with various communities. In addition, the media was busy covering that event and was not open to covering other events.
- **Tense Atmosphere in Jerusalem:** violence, tensions between Jews and Arabs. On the one hand, a concern about whether this is the right time to act in the public sphere, and on the other hand, it strengthened the need and importance of our work on Jerusalem Day.

After a year of working remotely, online events, and seclusion at home, it was wonderful to again be able to go out, meet each other, create a presence on the Jerusalem street and create Jerusalemite Day, together.

The day in numbers

- Events: 43
- Neighbor encounters: 100
- Events cancelled because of security situation: 5 (and 4 more because of lack of registration)
- Participants in events: 2,000
- Participants in neighbor encounters: 2,000

New Directions and Trends

- **Meetings:** cooperation with organizations and public institutions, and designing agreed-upon plans of action around common goals; increased neighborhood-based activity (leaving the city center, reaching new audiences); dealing with the issue of tolerance in a concrete way - in neighborly relations in the building, on a daily basis.
- **Addressing the contemporary reality:** the need to make the non-violent voice heard during a tense period, the events taking place alongside the tensions.
- **Diverse audiences:** The audiences that attended events were very diverse - children, young people, retirees, new immigrants, etc. – and were different than those we often see at 'coexistence' events.

Press

- Online article on the Davar website (Hebrew):
<https://www.davar1.co.il/303756/>
- Diana Lipton's blog:
<https://blogs.timesofisrael.com/jerusalem-day-for-jerusalemmites/>

Reactions

From Nefashot, Making Souls:

It was great to meet, to sing in public, to give voice to all of us who are hurting, trembling, dealing with [mental illness], who might not show it to others.

Thank you to the magic gang, Singing in the Garden, and to Matan Chayat for his exciting words!

Thank you to Shula Ben-Da'at Alfrovich and to Tamar Ben-Levi for reading the poems.

Thank you to the Hartman Institute and to the Midrasha at Oranim College for the welcoming location, and to the Jerusalem Intercultural Center for the invitation to do this again this year – for the fourth time!

And last but not least – thank you to all the Jerusalemites who came and made the evening more pleasant with your singing and listening.

May we see the good in Jerusalem every day, always, for all its inhabitants.

Itamar Farhi:

Thank you to the hundreds of people who came in a heavy heat wave to the two tours I gave last Saturday that focused on tolerance, feminism, peace and coexistence that right now may seem so far away, but after the winds of war die down, we will all continue to live with one another. Wishes for calmer and better days.

Hilla DJ Darya:

It was a complex experience yesterday.

After the air-raid siren and the rockets near Jerusalem there was a great deal of panic. We debated whether or not to continue, and we decided to continue. The DJ'ing changed character completely.

For me, in music everything blends well together, Arabic, Jewish. In reality it is much more complex. It's sad that this is how the day ended. But there were also many good moments at this event. I played the song, "One Day" right after the explosion. Hoping for quiet and beautiful days.

Reactions

Shira Lev Tzion:

This is Jerusalem!

Renew our days, meeting with ... the neighbors!

This evening we celebrated Jerusalem Day

In a pleasant meeting in the courtyard of our building.

Neighbors of different ages and identities

Gathered in the grass, and together we raised our glasses.

We met new neighbors,

And we deepened our acquaintance with those we knew.

One of the neighbors shared that she grew up in this building,

And spent many enjoyable hours in the very same yard.

Another neighbor said that her father fought for Jerusalem during the War of Independence,

And her mother did communications in that war.

And other neighbors told where they came from, from one locale or another,

From within and outside the country, what it was like growing up,

And the special neighborly relations that once existed.

I, who did not grow up in this city,

Am happy about the neighborhood I live in and good neighbors.

Happy Jerusalem Holiday!

The Urban Trip:

Thank you all the tourists who joint our festive tours on Jerusalemite Day of Diversity, in 36-degree heat (!) and of course to the amazing tour guides. It was above and beyond all expectations. It was so refreshing to commemorate Jerusalemite Day in a way that celebrates connections and solidarity.

Summary

Jerusalemite Day of Diversity proved again to be a great success, even though it took place while tensions broiled in the background, and the evening of May 10, which included an air-raid siren in Jerusalem and rockets in the Jerusalem area, ended with a mixture of emotions and feelings. Dozens of activists and hundreds of Jerusalemites took to the streets and celebrated together the Jerusalem-ness we all share.

There were tours of a number of neighborhoods - Mamilla, Mea Shearim, Sheikh Jarrah, Pisgat Ze'ev and more; A joint prayer ceremony for Jews, Muslims and Christians; The creation of a Jerusalem culinary book by the best chefs in the city, peppered with childhood memories and thoughts about Jerusalem; Dozens of meetings with neighbors in different neighborhoods in the city that dealt with questions about good neighborliness and creating a diverse and common space in the building; Public sing-alongs organized by people dealing with mental illness, secular and ultra-Orthodox together; A huge street game to encourage meeting and conversation between passers-by; An original Jerusalem-Ethiopian play; Children's drawing festival and various arts festival for adults; Portrait paintings of Jerusalem women; Meetings about Ashkenazim and Sephardim, Jerusalem diversity in Hebrew poetry, acceptance of the other in Judaism and more; Kosher Iftar dinner; Art workshops and diverse musical performances.

All this happened during Jerusalemite Day of Diversity across the city, despite, and perhaps because of, the social tension bubbling beneath the surface in Jerusalem in weeks preceding the day. Despite the difficult atmosphere, there was a general sense this was necessary, now more than ever, to make the Jerusalem voice heard - the inclusive, diverse, multicultural view of the city, and to strengthen our presence in the public sphere.

List of Events

Old City, Now! | Window to the Old City

Effective activism of residents, urban collaborations, planning, infrastructure, garbage and everything in between.

The tour took place in conjunction with Jane's Walks.

Enough of Incitement and Racism | Adam Institute for Peace and Democracy

Incitement and racism are here, and will not go anywhere if nothing is done.

Racism, incitement and hatred - what do we know about these phenomena and how to deal with them?

A special broadcast day of Midreshet Adam in collaboration with Dr. Michael Miro, the editor-in-chief of PeopleBroadcasting, where we will meet experts, activists, law and education professionals who discuss ways to deal with these difficult phenomena. We will address the questions: What is racism? Importance of freedom of expression and its limits, what does the law say and why is it not enforced? We will recognize civil society struggles and present educational approaches to these issues.

Re-Routing: Public transportation in East, West and ultra-Orthodox Jerusalem | Traveling forward in Jerusalem

Public transportation in Jerusalem: challenges, complexities, solutions and dreams of residents from the three parts of the city.

The tour takes place in conjunction with Jane's Walks.



Common Space - Different Communities | Tamar Gradinger

Along the Rachmilevitch promenade in the Pisgat Ze'ev neighborhood, we will talk about accessibility, parks, urban nature sites for different communities, and even a playground accessible to populations with special needs.

The tour takes place in collaboration with "Jane's Walks"

How to Clean for 3000 Years? Behind the Bins and Between the Dumpsters | The Little Prince – Cleaning Up Jerusalem Together

A walk along the story of cleaning up Jerusalem, through the alleyways of the Geula neighborhood. How to clean a capital city and how to unite a variety of sectors behind one story. The tour takes place in conjunction with Jane's Walks.

List of Events

Believers: An Evening of Prayer for Jerusalem | Kehilat Zion Jerusalem

Jerusalem is a city of faith to all those who believe - in good, in connection, in hope.

As we do every year - and this year, during days of tension and rifts, during the coronavirus pandemic - we will gather together, believers from different religions. We will pray for a reality that brings neighbors together. A reality that sees us all as human beings. A human reality of concern and mutual responsibility. A reality that depends on us, on each one of us, and how we choose to live and be in the Holy City.

Each voice contributes to the light of faith and all of our voices together will illuminate the city of peace and love for humanity.



Heroines of the Palmach | A special Shabati tour in honor Jerusalemite Day of Diversity and Jane's Walks, with Itamar Farhi

You are invited to a slightly different, unique, tour, (sad at times, funny at times) that begins on Palmach Street and ends on Palmach Street. Only about women, only about heroism and their connection to the most feminist street in Jerusalem and perhaps in the whole world.

You don't need to go to the cinema to find superheroes, you can find them next door, on Palmach Street, women larger than life who gave their lives to fulfill impossible dreams.

The tour keeps Shabbat (no microphones will be used) but is also intended for those who do not keep Shabbat, because the public space belongs to all of us!

The tour guide: Itamar Farhi, a rebel, an economist, the founder of the Story Teller line, conducts satirical tours, a Jerusalem celeb only without the money, fame and admiration (apart from his mother, but that, too, is doubtful) ...



List of Events

"Guns and Roses"| A special Shabati tour in honor of Jerusalemite Day of Diversity and Jane's Walks around the Rose Garden

A unique tour between the guns of the Jerusalemite bereavement and sadness and the romantic roses and the secret dating sites around the magical Rose Garden.

If you are looking for kitsch, caressing romance, sweetness, then ... this is not the tour for you.

But, if you love cynicism and understand that in Jerusalem it is impossible to separate pain from beauty, you are invited to hear about an interest-laden love that gave birth to the Sacher Park, about love for Jerusalem dogs, love for Jerusalem birds, love for Jerusalem nature, love for Jerusalem food, about a daughter's special love for her father until it lead to death, about a father's love for his dead child, love for politics, love for power.

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MeetYourNeighbors - Jerusalem Day at your Doorstep! | Rashut HaRabim, Young People's Authority, G'vanim, and the Jerusalem Intercultural Center

Jerusalem Day is a great opportunity to meet more neighbors and think together about how to make Jerusalem a fun place to live. Let's celebrate Jerusalem Day together, we don't need to go far to remember why we love this city. During Jerusalem Day, there will be dozens of meetings of neighbors meeting in their buildings and neighborhoods, getting to know, hear and tell about our experiences, and what we want to create in our common space.



List of Events

On the Banks of the Babylon River | Mashu Mashu Theater for Social Change

A family is torn apart, moves toward the horizon, looking for a new land.

Beyond the mountain, river - hope!

There she meets one man who longs to build high, to reach heaven.

Old history mixes with contemporary reality in a big river, in a picturesque, tragic-comic physical theater show.

During the play we meet the state of fleeing an immigration, exploiting the weak, the difficulty in mediating and communicating between different cultures, and between the traditional and the new, visually and through movement. We also meet the power of family.

Directed by: Alina Fishson

Artistic accompaniment: Zvika Fishson

Artistic management: Yael Gideoni

Actors and creators: Daniel Engel, Daniel Ovadia, Osher Gilad, Natanel Rapaport, Jordan Baumhaft and Yael Gideoni



Status Quo and Tolerance | Window to Mount Zion

A tour of Mount Zion - among sacred sites, forgotten stories and a delicate status quo, monks, yeshiva students, artists and business owners live side by side. Get to know the worldview of the residents and visitors to Mount Zion, the shared living and the delicate and fascinating cooperation that take place there today. During the tour, we will meet with Eli Dan, Assistant Director of the Diaspora Yeshiva, and Father Daniel, a monk from the Dormition community. The tour is free, but pre-registration is required.



List of Events

Chalk Painting Festival at the Railroad Park | Efrat Kampiniano and Arbel Egger

Children and adults, artists and scribblers, are all welcome to come and paint and decorate together (for one day) the sidewalks of the city. A festival that is a celebration for the whole family and all.



My Home, in Front of a Wall | Malka

Residents of the Mamilla neighborhood talk about life, community and living in the shadow of the Jordanian Legion between 1948 and 1967: in the cave, and in the Fast Hotel.



Yoma: A Day in Jerusalem | Shayna Abramson

Join Shayna Abramson, the founder of International Women's Talmud Day, for a class on the relationship between Jerusalem and Yom Kippur in the Talmud, in honor of Jerusalemite Day of Diversity.

List of Events

Tour: From Musrara to Rehavia, in the Footsteps of the Black Panthers | Ofer Barzilai, the Urban Tour

Tour that will show both Musrara, home of the Black Panthers, as well as former Prime Minister Golda Meir's Kitchen in Rehavia. We will speak about fights for social change, social gaps and relations between Jews of Eastern and Ashkenazi origin. We will finish with a meeting with author Tamar Verete-Zehavi at the Adraba Bookstore, on the occasion of her new book about the leader of the Black Panthers movement, Reuven Abargil.



Hidden Heritage - The Muslim Cemetery of Mamilla and the Sites Around | Emek Shaveh

The Hidden Heritage tour deals with the history of Mamilla and its importance in understanding life in Jerusalem, past and present. Antiquities from the end of the sixth century BCE and water systems from the late Roman period were discovered at Mamilla, located in the heart of Jerusalem. The main part of the site is the large Muslim cemetery, which dates back to the tenth century CE and it was an active cemetery until the 20th century. The area's high real estate value, and the fact that most of the remains are Muslim graves, pose challenges to developers, conservationists and those who aspire to live in a pluralistic city that cultivates the cultural heritage of all who live in it.



The Poetry of Yehuda Amichai on Jerusalem – in Honor of Jerusalem Day – Online Event | Old Yishuv Court Museum

Moderated by Avichai Kimchi, Participants: Gilad Me'iri, Batsheva Dori, Tzadok Alon, Hadara Levin, Tzila Bar-Zen Tzur, Ran Yagil

List of Events

Spirits of Change - A Dialogue Tour between Wisdom and Madness Across Jerusalem | Bina Zhuravel, The Urban Tour

The tour traced the process that the mental health space in Jerusalem in particular and in Israel in general has undergone in recent years - from the suppression of the 'other' through diagnoses and fences to a reform that seeks to challenge the dichotomous separation between reason and madness. We will meet at the Jerusalem Theater plaza where we will meet stories of Jerusalem madness, from there we will continue to Talbiyeh Hospital to meet experiences of coping with mental illness at the historic hospital. Afterwards, we will continue to Beit Hansen to hear about the movement to break down the walls of psychiatric care, and the development of alternative mental health services, led by the Sutria Association - one of the first places in Jerusalem that sought to balance care and foster open dialogue - a systematic approach to treating mental crises. The tour will end with at the Moon Grove that is adjacent to Beit Hansen, where we will talk about the urban and community conditions that allow for good mental health as an individual and community.



We Will Build Jerusalem | Diana Lipton

For about three years we lived on a construction site. It involves noise, dust and loss (we are about to lose a view I love, others have lost much more). But it was also a spectacular experience - a constantly changing landscape, a wonderful ballet of machines and man, the construction of Jerusalem. Come to a pop-up exhibition of photos taken in the last three years from the windows of our home.



On the Difference between Disagreement and Opposition | Rinat Levinson

You are invited to an in-depth workshop where we will learn how to talk and also argue about everything but in a respectful way.

Led by: Rinat Levinson - Therapist and facilitator of emotional development workshops through the Derech methodology. Established the Derech project - "Be your own psychologist". paththerapy.co.il

List of Events

Just Start Talking – Talks | Talks

A huge street game! Let's have short conversations with strangers about things you never thought of. It promises to be surprisingly instructive and of course fun!



"I went out to meet you, I found you." | Lily Halperin

Lily will provide us with 2 applied methods to promote patience and strengthen interpersonal and community connection.



"Singing from the Heart to Jerusalem" | Making Souls and Singing in the Garden

Continuing the tradition, as part of a Jerusalemite Day of Diversity, we will hold a joint event of Singing in the Garden and Making Souls.

We will meet for an evening of Jerusalem songs combined with an original works on coping with mental illness. The event is also being held in collaboration with the Israeli Rabbinic Program of the Hartman Institute and Oranim College.

Singing in the Garden - a Jerusalem platform for a meeting through public singing

Making Souls - an initiative to raise awareness of mental health through cultural and artistic events.



List of Events

Jerusalem of Holiness: An Evening of Jerusalem Poetry | Tarbus'- Haredim Make Culture, The Voice of the Crowd (Jerusalem), Line 400 & The Torah Hub

Poets bonfire 3: The program:

A short poetry workshop

Poetry reading

Discussion on poetry that deals with holiness and the sublime

Meeting in front of the bonfire



Not Nice for a Serious Relationship | Confederation House

The Ethiopian Israeli Theater Hullegeb in a comedic play about the acceptance of the other - stigmas, prejudices and the struggle of the new immigrant in Israel.

Stories From The Mediation Room | Mosaica

In honor of Jerusalem Day, Mosaica - the mediation center in the Jerusalem community invites you to be introduced to exciting and interesting stories from the mediation room, an opportunity to hear the stories and ask all the questions you have about mediation.

Sinsila - a new Sustainability center in East Jerusalem (The tour in english) | Muslala

community initiative "placemkaing in East Jerusalem" and creating Sinsila center (Sustainability center in East Jerusalem).



List of Events

Following the Lost Third - Wholesale Market Tour | Muslala

What happens to our vegetables and fruits from the moment they are picked until they reach our house?

During the tour we will get to know the story of the Givat Shaul neighborhood, the story of the wholesale market, walk around the vegetable and fruit storage and get to know the warehouse of the food rescuers and the new building.



Yeru-Shulayim (margins) - Meeting Other Voices | Beit Midrash Elul

A seminar in collaboration with Beit Hofmann Senior Center. A literature encounter with Yiftach Ashkenazi on expressions of marginalization in Hebrew poetry. Different communities in Hebrew poetry about Jerusalem. Workshops: 1-joint study of texts on marginal groups - Shlomi Perlmutter. 2- Marginal Culture and Art Workshop in Jerusalem.



The Flower Parade | Tag Meir

As every year, this year too, thousands of flowers of peace will be distributed to the residents of Jerusalem and the merchants of the Old City, hours before the parade of flags in the area. This year the parade comes during Ramadan - and we are more determined than ever to show the residents of the Old City an Israeli alternative that is inclusive and understanding. Young people, adults, families, teenagers and students - all join the Flower Parade to express solidarity with our Arab neighbors.



List of Events

Music. Art. Sustainability. Jerusalem | DJ DARYA and the Jerusalem Biennale

A Jerusalem event with a variety of artists and arts, which together present a colorful and diverse picture of the city.

In the courtyard: DJ Darya

Art booths: Hila Falmon, creator of art, tools and jewelry from nature; Ella Guttman, ceramicist; Aharon Paz, Jerusalem Spoken Word artist

The Biennale Gallery will feature the exhibition Jerusalem Nights

Inside: Clothes exchange! Feel free to bring men's, women's and unused accessories to exchange with others. Let's renew!



Shahar Meir | Ofer Golani

Shahar Shorek the prince of harmonies and a refugee from the national-religious community of Ofra on the clarinet, flutes and voice. And Lev (Ofer) known as 'Jerusalem' disciple of Dylan and Rabbi Meir of the text, bring people s together with a dancing klezmer and other musical genres (jazz, classical, blues, rock, folk). Where Jews and Arabs, ultra-Orthodox, dragons and activists, retirees, toddlers and internationals all meet, with healing and harmonious unity in sound. You are welcome to take photos and upload for the sake of tolerance and multiculturalism in Jerusalem, our beloved

Living Women | The New Barbizon Group in a Marathon of Portrait Painting

The Jerusalem Artists' Studios and the Goethe-Institut Israel will host a unique event that will take place on Jerusalem Day, as part of the events promoting tolerance in Jerusalem.

During the event, artists Natalia Zourabova, Anna Lukashevsky and Olga Kundina (members of the New Barbizon Group) invite women in the public space to the Train Track Park to have their portrait painted from life.

The portraits of the women who participate in the event will be displayed later in an exhibition at the Jerusalem Artists' Studios.



List of Events

Up the Spiral: An Optimistic Tour | Muslala

An optimistic tour of the Clal building in the center of Jerusalem, which combines the story of the rise, fall and renewal of the city center, with the story of Musalla and its love affair with the Clal building.



Kosher Iftar Meal | Diana Lipton

Every night of Ramadan, at sunset, Muslims break the fast with a festive 'Iftar' meal to which non-Muslim guests are often invited. Join us for a traditional Iftar-dinner meal prepared with kosher products in a kosher family kitchen by Palestinian master chef Magda Elshana.

This event will take place as part of Jerusalemite Day of Diversity in partnership with the National Library's Ramadan Nights Program.



Acceptance of the Other in Judaism - Study of Sources and Discussion | B'Libah Homah

Between the mitzvah to love Hagar and the hierarchy between Jews and Gentiles, between tolerance and separatism, is there a clear connecting thread? We will try to think together and understand the subtle complexity, while reading the sources.

"Special" People Unite on Jerusalem Day | Center for Independent Living

The Center for Independent Living in Jerusalem and the Municipal Department for People with Disabilities in the Jerusalem Municipality, invite the residents of the city with disabilities – children and adults, as well as their families (caregivers are also welcome), as well as all city residents, to take part in a colorful parade! The event will be accompanied by music and dancing.

List of Events

Spoken Arabic lesson with Gilad from Madrasa! | Madrasa

We will meet in honor of Jerusalemite Day of Diversity and celebrate the multicultural and multilingual environment in the city by getting to know the Arabic language!

We will learn a little about the characteristics of the specifically Jerusalemite Arab dialect, we will practice useful words and expressions (so that when you leave the lesson you can already communicate)! And get acquainted with Madrasa's free learning courses and networks so you can get into the momentum of learning! So if you are already fantasizing and dreaming about the day you can chat in Arabic with your neighbors and friends - come to class, promise you will not want to stop!

Mana tells the story of Jerusalem | Ilan Grossi

A booklet of Jerusalem recipes by the best chefs, of all shades and colors, who grew up in the city and cook in it, to celebrate the city and its flavors! By connecting to a story from their mother's house, to a dish that connects to Jerusalem in the past and present, we will create a booklet that conjures up the aromas that emerge from the diverse cuisines, which together create the special taste of Jerusalem.

[Link to download the culinary book](#)



Knitting Jerusalem Together | Shelter Gallery

Workshop in recycling knitting. We'll learn original knitting techniques from recycled materials, to create a joint work of the women of Jerusalem in the public sphere. No prior knowledge required, admission is free! The Shelter Gallery - A gallery of contemporary Jewish art that promotes socio-artistic initiatives, located in the city center on the seam between the Makor Baruch neighborhood and the Mahane Yehuda market.