



The Israel Committee of Santa Barbara Presents:

The Third Annual Community-Wide TEACH-IN ON ISRAEL 2008

The Israel Committee of Santa Barbara is an independent organization whose purpose is to foster informed support for Israel in the community, to facilitate effective responses to anti-Israel bias in the media and other public forums, and to provide opportunities for study and dialogue on related topics.

Speaker Bios

Nadav Morag

Chair of the Political Science Department at American Jewish University, and previously Director for Foreign Policy at the Israel National Security Council, Dr. Morag will speak about terrorism and Israel's counter-terrorism strategies, as well as the nature of the Iranian threat, placing Israel's options in both a practical and moral context.

Donna Rosenthal

Author of the award-winning *The Israelis: Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Land*, Donna Rosenthal's work has appeared in the New York Times, the Washington Post, Newsweek, The Atlantic and The Jerusalem Post. A former Israel TV producer and Israel radio reporter, she is frequently interviewed on TV and radio about Israel, from CNN to ABC to NPR, and in a Publishers Weekly national survey placed in the top ten most popular speakers on Israel.

Gary Kenzer

USA Executive Director of HonestReporting, an organization that monitors the media and exposes cases of bias against Israel so as to promote factual, impartial and fair reporting. Since 2000, HonestReporting has prompted hundreds of retractions, revisions and apologies from major news organizations such as CNN, Reuters and the Times of London.

Nicholas Goldberg

Editor of the Op-Ed page for the Los Angeles Times since 2003, Nick Goldberg previously served as Middle East bureau chief for Newsday. From 1995 to 1998 Mr. Goldberg lived in Jerusalem, covering the Israeli-Palestinian peace process; the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin; presidential elections in Iran; arms monitoring in Iraq; war in Lebanon and the rise of Islamic fundamentalism in Saudi Arabia.

Roz Rothstein and Roberta Sied

Roz Rothstein is the CEO and founder of StandWithUs, an organization born during the 2000 Intifada with the objective of challenging misinformation about Israel through education. Roberta Seid, is director of research and education for StandWithUs.

Stephen Wiener

Stephen Wiener teaches Political Science at UCSB and frequently lectures on modern Israeli history.

Yoram Doctori

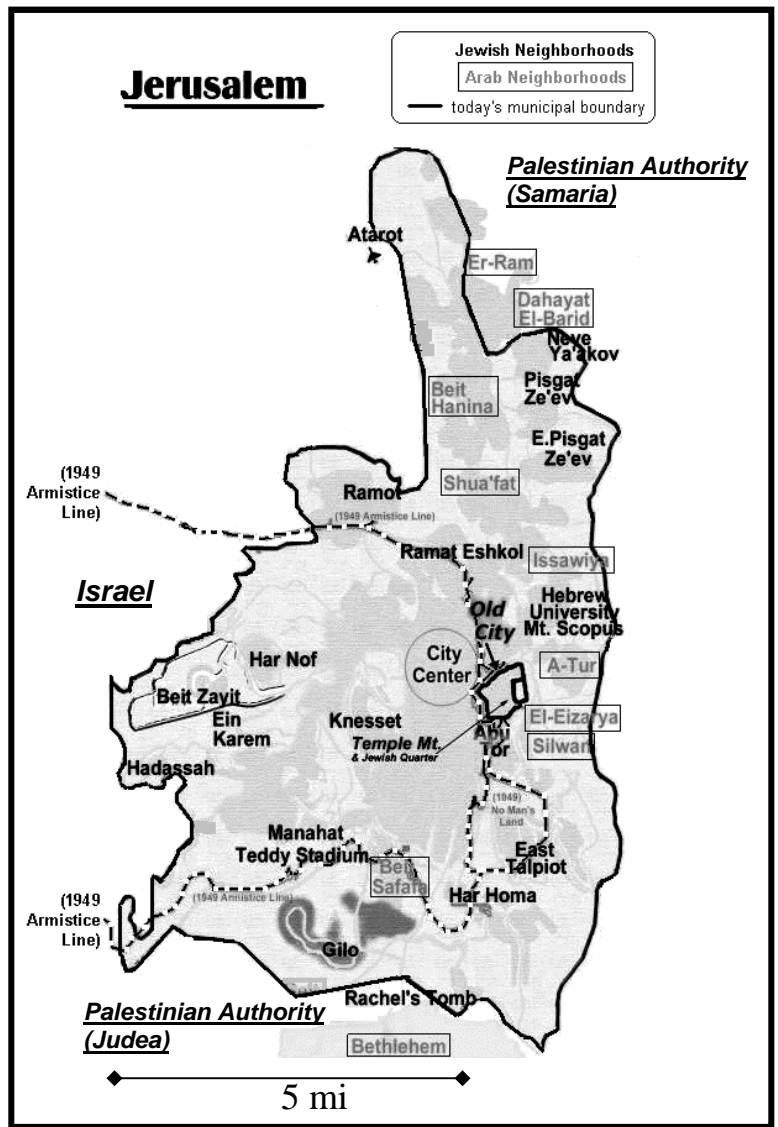
Active for many years in Israeli security, Yoram Doctori is CEO of Defender Security and Consulting, Inc.

ISRAEL TODAY

Maps and Comparisons

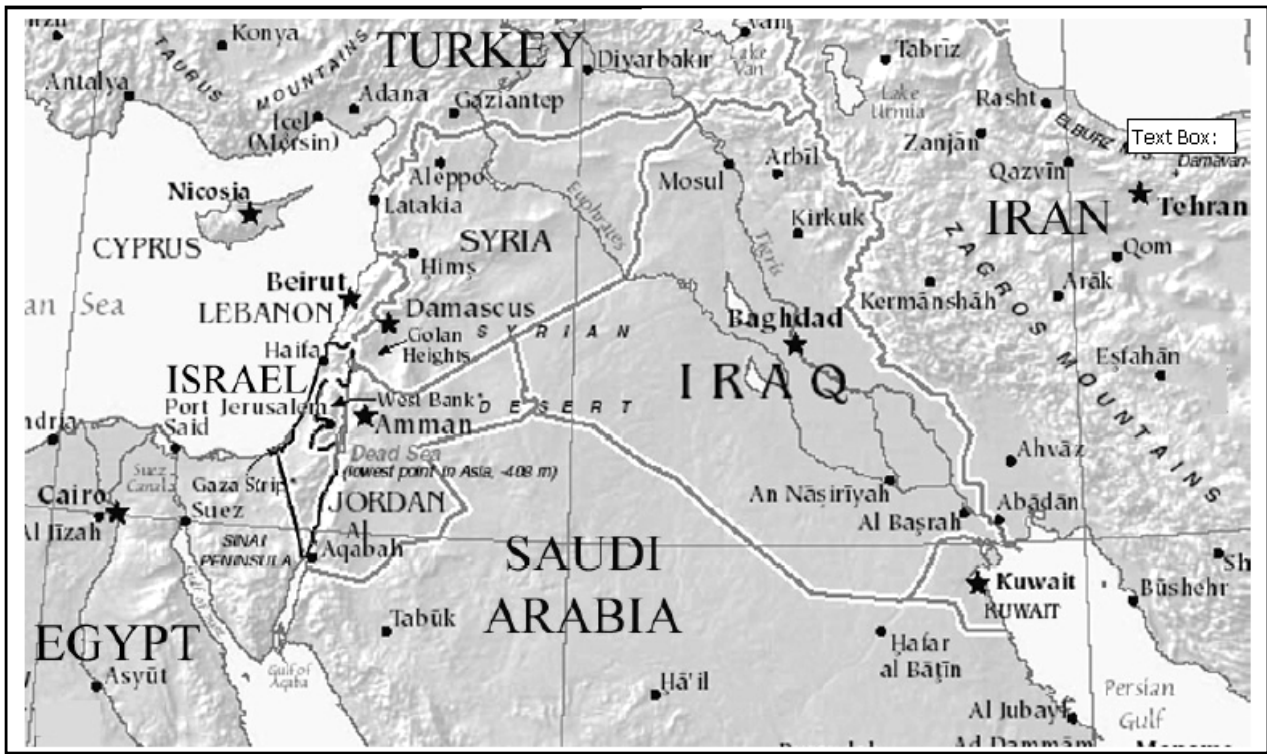


- Land area of Israel: 8000 sq. miles
- Tricounty (Santa Barbara, San Luis Obispo and Ventura counties): 7900 sq. miles

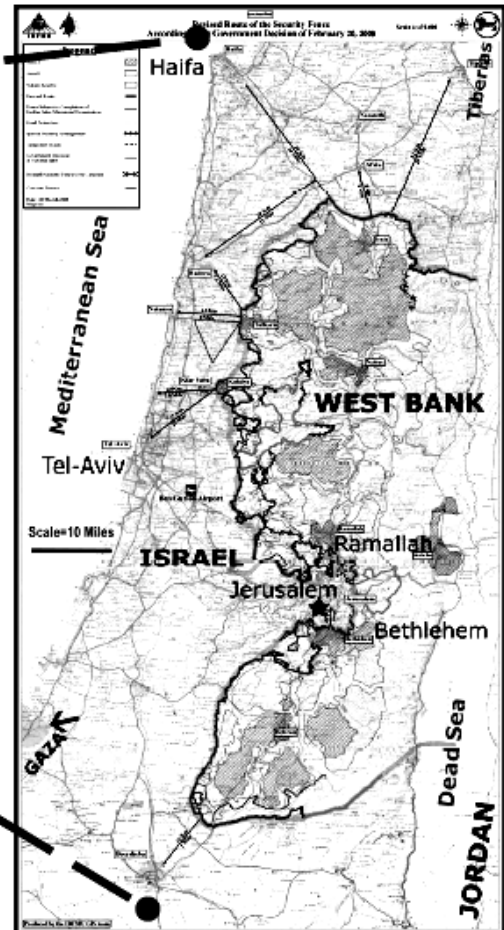
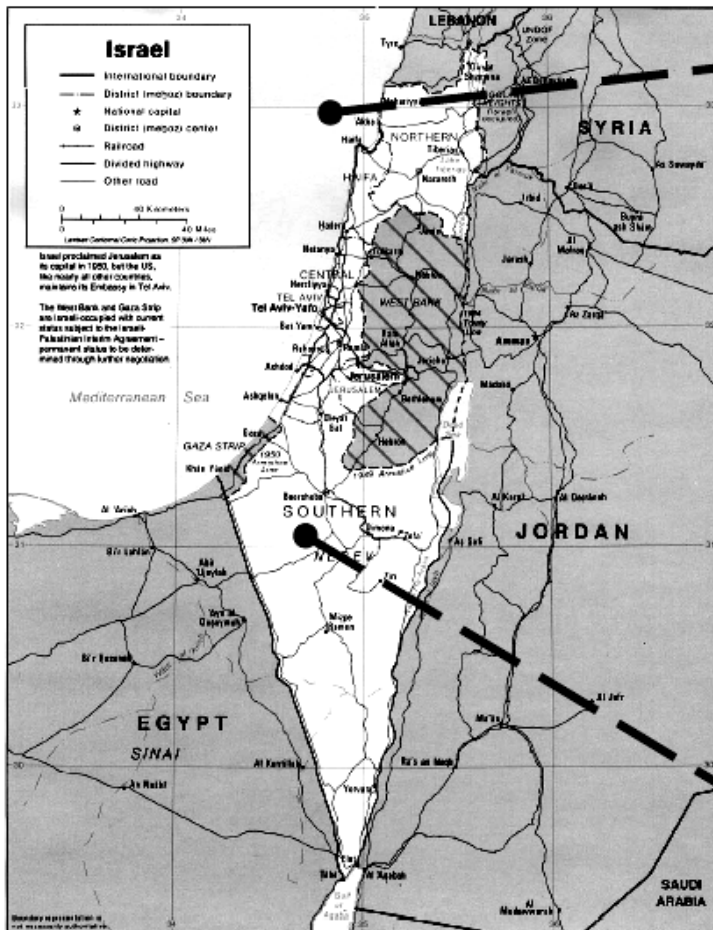


Land area of Arab countries : Land area of Israel = 600:1





Israel in the context of the Middle East



Israel Timeline

Palestinian/Arab	Main Time-line Events	Jewish/Israeli
Jewish presence in <i>Eretz Yisrael</i> dates back to the 13th century B.C.E., continuing without interruption to the present.		
633 685-710	Arab conquest, the beginning of 1250 years of mostly Muslim dominion over Eretz Yisrael Al-Aksa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock built on site of First and Second Temples	722 - 63 BCE 598 BCE 70 CE 132 CE
<i>Ottoman Rule</i>		
	1844 1897	First census in Jerusalem shows 7120 Jews, 5760 Muslims and 3390 Christians First Zionist Congress meets, in Basel, Switzerland
1878 1882-1903		The first Zionist settlement , Petach Tikvah, is founded by Jews from Jerusalem. First Aliyah of Jews to Eretz Yisrael following wave of pogroms in Russia and Eastern Europe. 35,000 Jews came from Eastern Europe and Yemen.
1904-1914 1910-1911	First use of the word "Palestine" by some elite in the Arab community. Polemics first appear in Arab press, comparing Zionism to the crusades	1914 1908 1909
<i>British Territory</i>		
	1916	End of four centuries of Ottoman rule in Middle East Sykes-Picot Agreement , dividing Middle East into British and French zones of influence. Lebanon and Syria were assigned to France. Iraq went to Britain. Transjordan was severed from the Palestine Mandate as a separate entity under British control.
	Nov. 1917	Balfour Declaration , articulating Britain's commitment to the establishment of a Jewish "national home" in Palestine
1919 - 1923 1920		The Third Aliyah brought 40,000 Jews to Eretz Yisrael, coming mainly from the Russian Empire. Many of the new <i>olim</i> were pioneers, known as <i>halutzim</i> , trained in agriculture. The Haganah ("the Defense") formed, a paramilitary organization created to safeguard the Kibbutzim.
1924 - 1929 1931	1928 1929 1931-1939	Founding of Muslim Brotherhood in Egypt, committed to laws of Shari'a and tenets of Wahabism. Today, 70 branches of the Muslim Brotherhood exist worldwide Thousands of Arabs riot against the Jews, attacking worshippers at the Western Wall, in Safed, and in Hebron. More than 60 Jews died (many Jews were saved by Arab neighbors). Birth of the Palestinian nationalist movement. Years of major Jewish and Arab immigration. By 1939, there are 1,070,000 Arabs and 460,000 Jews in the region referred to as Palestine.
1924 - 1929 1931		The Fourth Aliyah , 82,000 arrived, largely the result of Anti-semitism in Poland and Hungary, coupled with newly imposed immigration quotas in the U.S. Roughly 23,000 of these Jews eventually left the country. The Irgun , an underground offshoot of the Haganah, founded in the wake of the Arab massacre of 1929
1936-1939	1937	As the Great Arab Rebellion intensified, there was an upsurge in Arab terrorism in late 1937. For the first time, the Irgun reacted by itself adopting terrorist tactics, exploding large bombs in public centers. According to historian Benny Morris, this dialectic of violence marks the introduction of terrorism into the Zionist-Arab conflict.
	1937	British Peel Commission report concludes that Jewish-Arab conflict was "irrepressible." The report recommends 1) the partition of Palestine into Jewish and Arab areas and, 2) to that end, the transfer of 225,00 Arabs and 1,250 Jews, preferably on a voluntary basis with compensation. Neither side embraced the recommendations.
	1945	WW II ends , and the world learns of the murder of six million Jews and another six million non-Jews.
		1946 The Kielce Pogrom , in which 40 Jews were killed while attempting to repatriate to Poland after war.

State of Israel

1948	One week after Israel declares its independence, the armies of Lebanon, Syria, Jordan, Egypt and Iraq invade Israel with the intent of destroying it. Because of the war, between 600,000 and 800,000 Palestinian refugees leave, some voluntary and some involuntary, many anticipating a quick return upon defeat of the nascent Jewish state.	Nov. 1947 May 1948 1956	U.N. General Assembly Partition Resolution Adopted The Israeli Declaration of Independence The Suez Crisis , started when Egypt nationalized the Suez Canal and blockaded the Straits of Tiran, thereby cutting off IsraelThe Suez War's sea trade with Africa and the Far East	1948–1958	Years of major Jewish immigration to Israel as Jews suffer privations throughout the Arab world and elsewhere. Major influxes from Iran, Iraq, Yemen, Poland, Turkey and other places.
1964 Sept. 1967	Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) founded , committed to Israel's destruction The Three No's of Khartoum: A summit of Arab nations refuses Israel's overture of land for peace, proclaiming "No peace with Israel," "No recognition of Israel," and "No agreement to negotiation with Israel."	June 1967 Nov. 1967	Six-Day War , during which Israel successfully fought off attacks on multiple fronts, gaining control over the Gaza strip, the West Bank and the Golan Heights U.N. Security Council Resolution 242 1) called for a return to the pre-1967 borders, 2) demanded that the Arab nations end their belligerence and acknowledge Israel's sovereignty and its right to "secure and recognized borders," and 3) affirmed the need to solve the "refugee" problem (although it offered no hint as to a specific solution)	1967	In the war's aftermath, the expulsion of over 600,000 Jews from Arab countries in the Middle East. The first Jewish settlements appear in the occupied territories almost immediately, initially in small numbers.
1969	PLO begins cross-border attacks on Israel from Jordan.	1969	Egypt declares a "war of attrition" against Israel.		
1970	Black September Jordan expelled the PLO following a failed attempt to overthrow the Jordanian monarchy. The PLO then established itself in southern Lebanon, a hugely disruptive presence that contributed to Lebanon's civil war.	1973	Yom Kippur War	1970s 1977-1978	During the '70s, 140,000 Soviet Jews immigrate to Israel . Settlement construction rises following the election of the rightwing Likud government
1979	Islamic Revolution in Iran	1979	Peace treaty signed between Israel and Egypt	1979	In wake of Iran's Islamic Revolution, half the remaining 80,000 Iranian Jews emigrate, mainly to Israel and California
1981	Assassination of Egyptian president Anwar Sadat by Islamic fundamentalists.	1982	Israel invades Lebanon , in response to a decade of cross-border terror and Katyusha missile attacks from PLO, based in Lebanese refugee camps. After local Christian militia massacre civilians in two Palestinian refugee camps in Lebanon, Gen. Ariel Sharon resigns amid accusations that he permitted the deaths to happen by turning a blind eye.		
1987-1993 1987	First intifada - grass-roots uprising of Palestinians in the Territories, in response to ongoing political limbo. Hamas founded by Sheikh Ahmed Yassin as the Palestinian branch of the Muslim Brotherhood.	1985	Partial withdrawal from Lebanon. Establishment of security zone in the south.	1984-1985	Operation Moses and Operation Joshua , the airlifting of nearly 9,000 Ethiopian Jews to Israel.
		1993	Signing of the Oslo Accords	1991	Operation Solomon - Rescue of the remaining 14,300 Ethiopian Jews during 36 hours of non-stop flights
1995	Arafat elected president of Palestinian Authority in first Palestinian elections			1995	Assassination of Prime Minister Yitzchak Rabin
Sept. 2000	Start of Second intifada - driven by Palestinian leadership after failure of Camp David talks	May 2000	Israel completes its withdrawal from Southern Lebanon.		Election of Ariel Sharon as P.M.
2004 2005	Death of Yassir Arafat , age 75. Mahmoud Abbas succeeds him. Approximate end of Second Intifada.	2005	Prime Minister Ariel Sharon orders unilateral Gaza pullout ; outlines plans for similar action in West Bank	2002	Suicide attacks coming from the West Bank and Gaza wreak havoc in Israel. Start of construction of West Bank Barrier , credited with reducing terrorist incidents by 85-90%
2006	Hamas wins Palestinian elections; suffers international opprobrium for its continued commitment to Israel's destruction	2006	Second Lebanon war (against Hezbollah), sparked by kidnappings of IDF soldiers and a simultaneous artillery attack on Israeli communities.	2006	Israel withholds Palestinian tax revenues because of Hamas government's terrorist activities
		2008	Third Annual Teach-in on Israel, in Santa Barbara	2008	60th Anniversary of State of Israel.



RECOMMENDED READING

Non-fiction

The Zionist Idea, Arthur Hertzberg (Philadelphia: Jewish Publication Society, 1997) An overview of the central texts of Zionism and its various movements from its beginnings through the first decades of the State of Israel.

Righteous Victims: a History of the Zionist-Arab Conflict, 1881-2001, Benny Morris (New York: Vintage Books, 2001)
A nuanced history of the conflict, unflinching in its effort to portray the situation in Israel in all its complexity.

The Accidental Empire: Israel and the Birth of the Settlements, 1967-1977, Gershom Gorenberg (New York: Holt, 2006)

A clear-eyed examination of the birth of the settler movement in the aftermath of the Six Day War.

The Case for Israel, Alan Dershowitz (New Jersey: John Wiley & Sons, Inc., 2003)

A polemical, yet intellectually honest, defense of Israel - its decency, its commitment to the rule of law, its fundamental right to exist - from one of America's most gifted legal minds.

Once Upon a Country: a Palestinian Life, Sari Nusseibeh (New York: Farrar, Straus and Giroux, 2007)

Sari Nusseibeh tells his story in a way that reflects his own determination to understand the Israeli narrative as well. In the end, Nusseibeh argues, Israelis and Palestinians must come to recognize that they are natural allies, utterly dependent upon one another in order to achieve the peace that both sides desperately desire.

The Deadliest Lies: the Israel Lobby and the Myth of Jewish Control, Abe Foxman (New York: Palgrave Macmillan, 2007)

A critical response to the Walt and Mersheimer's thesis that US policy in the Middle East has been distorted by the Israel lobby to the detriment of America's real interests, written by the national director of the Anti-Defamation League.

From Beirut to Jerusalem, Thomas Friedman (New York: Anchor Books, 1990)

A rich, personal overview of the Arab-Israeli conflict by the Pulitzer winning columnist, through the prism of his years as a New York Times reporter, first in Beirut and later, in Jerusalem.

The Israelis: Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Land, Donna Rosenthal (New York: Free Press, 2005)

A panoramic portrait of Israeli diversity - Ashkenazim and Sephardim, Orthodox and secular, Russians and Ethiopians, Arabs and Christians, even adulterers and gays - rich in nuance, color and contradictions.

Fiction

Ten Thousand Lovers, Edeet Ravel

Set in Israel in the 1970s, *Ten Thousand* is a love story and a portrait of a nation in the midst of a painful, messy war. Above all, it is a terrific read, offering a wonderful window into Israeli life thirty years ago.

The Bus Driver Who Wanted to be God and Other Stories, Etgar Keret

Evocative tales of modern Israeli life, from one of Israel's most respected authors and playwrights.

The Source, James Michener

A very readable history of Israel, from caveman to the present time, both fictional and historical.

LOCAL CONTACTS & SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Synagogues

Chabad of Santa Barbara

Rabbi Yosef Loschak
6047 Stow Canyon Road 805.683.1544
www.sbchabad.org

Chabad UCSB

Rabbi Mendel Loschak 805.685.3348
www.chabaducsb.org

Community Shul of Montecito and Santa Barbara

Rabbi Arthur Gross-Schaefer 805.895.6593
www.communityshul.org

Congregation B'nai B'rith

Rabbi Steve Cohen
Cantor Mark Childs
1000San Antonio Creek Road 805.964.7869
www.cbbsb.org

Jewish Awareness Movement (JAM)

Rabbi Yakov Soussan
nanach1826@hotmail.com

Isla Vista Minyan

781 Embarcadero del Mar
David Bothman
805.682.3788

Lompoc Valley Jewish Community

Anita Friedman 805.736.5882
Gideon@youngreport.com

Santa Ynez Valley Jewish Community

Aggie Margolis 805.688.6271
www.syvjc.com

Temple Beth El of Santa Maria

805.928.2118
Herb Pregozen 805.937.6088
Gary Epstein 805.9296301

Vandenberg AFB Jewish Community

Gideon@youngreport.com

Young Israel of Santa Barbara

Jacob Bastonski
1826 Cliff Drive 805.966.4565
www.YISB.org

Organizations

Anti-Defamation League ADL

Cyndi Silverman Director 805.564.6670
www.adl.org

Beit HaYeladim Preschool at CBB

Dawn Farber, Director
805.967.6619
www.cbbsb.org

B'nai B'rith Lodge

Barry Sweet 805.680.0588

Brandeis University National Women's Committee

Leslie Steinmetz 805.687.5031

Forest Foundation

David Cygielman, Director
805.898.2511 theforestfoundation.net

Hadassah Santa Barbara

Cheryl Welkowsky 805.967.9651

Israel Committee of Santa Barbara

Peter Melnick, Chair
www.ic-sb.org

Israel Independence Day SB

www.sbjf.org

Jewish Federation of Greater Santa Barbara, Home of the Bronfman Jewish Community Center

Shelly Katz, Executive Director
524 Chapala Street 805.957.1115
www.jewishsantabarbara.org

Santa Barbara Hillel

Rabbi Allison Conyer 805.968.1280
santabarbarahillel.org

SB Jewish Community Foundation and Hebrew Free Loan 805.687.4319

Santa Barbara Jewish Film Festival

805.964.5577 www.sbjff.com

Norman P. and Sophia Taubman Foundation Endowed Symposia in Jewish Studies at UCSB

Dr.Leonard Wallock 805.893.2317



NOTES

Take-home action plans, thoughts, words to use, advocacy...

Thank you for joining us today!

ISRAEL COMMITTEE OF SANTA BARBARA

Chair: Peter Melnick

Members: Rabbi Allison Conyer, Ralph Daniel, Yoram Doctori, Rabbi Arthur Gross-Schaefer, Corie Johndro, Professor Laura Kalman, Beth Katz, Marta Martine, Laini Millar Melnick, Ruscha Robbins, Dan Some, Betty Some, Ira Weingarten

Student Members: Lilly Khalili, Maya Liss, Daniel Melnick

And thanks to friends of the committee, advisors and past members:

Ami Cohen, Bryan Conyer, Betsy Drucker, Cyndi Silverman, Rabbi Steve Cohen, Gail Teton-Landis, David Teton-Landis, Julian Weissglass

Please visit us at ic-sb.org