



Jewish Public Library Annual Report 2015

101



Contents

Message from the President and the Executive Director	3
Special Projects and Library Outreach	4
The Norman Berman Children's Library	6
The Archives of the Jewish Public Library	7
Cultural Programmes 2013-2014	8
Marketing & Communications	11
Fundraising	13
Statistics	16
Executive, Board of Directors and Library Committees	18



President Claire Berger Fagen



Executive Director Michael Crellin

Message from the President and the Executive Director

Bringing our
endowment to an
equivalent
of \$5,000,000

The JPL continues to evolve and grow. Our 100th Anniversary Campaign has surpassed the \$3,000,000 mark and continues, bringing our endowment to an equivalent of some \$5,000,000. This will prove helpful for our future.

The diversity of our programming is evidenced by a range of offerings. As examples, *Of Many* brought Imam Khalid Latif together with Rabbi Yehuda Sarna to discuss their remarkable friendship and its impact on their respective communities at New York University. *A Life in Four Acts* was presented by its author, Jacques Lasalle, former Chief of Staff to Herb Marx, the first Jewish Minister of Justice in Quebec. *Suspicious Minds*, a unique look into delusion, culture and the social world, was presented by its authors, Drs. Ian and Joel Gold, introduced by their father, Dr. Phil Gold. *The Most Dangerous Book*, an exceptional examination of James Joyce's Ulysses and freedom of speech, was discussed by its author, Kevin Birmingham, as the closing lecture for the annual Bloomsday events. Yiddish at the JPL continues to thrive through our annual Love Café, an evening of music and song, as well as our evening of songs, music, readings and poetry in honour of Sholem Aleichem. These are only a few of the highlights of our 2014/2015 season that drew almost 10,000 participants to the diverse programmes that we present to our community and beyond.

As an example of the JPL's outreach to the broader community, supported by the NDG/CDN Borough, we are building a relationship with the local Filipino community. One of the offshoots has been our shipping of books from the JPL's collection to Yasmin Ong's one

room library at the Laguna Sino-Filipino Educational Foundation in rural Santa Cruz, Laguna, Philippines.

As another example, we note that Russian has become one of our primary languages of circulation at the JPL. We have worked, in collaboration with PJ Library, to host 20 Russian families for our first Russian story time. We have initiated a Russian book swap, "Knigovorot", enabling Russian patrons to exchange books amongst themselves and with the Library. We have received a grant to dramatically increase our Russian children's collection. This collection will be closely coordinated with the reading lists of Russian schools in our neighbourhood and we are working to secure additional funding for still more expansion of these services. All this furthers our outreach initiative to the Russian community rooted in our annual evening of Russian culture which attracts an audience of over 400 guests.

These eclectic offerings reflect the evolution of libraries in general and the evolving role of the JPL, in particular, as embodying that aspect of the human spirit that drives learning, discovery and innovation. Libraries no longer act only as repositories of books, journals and archives – they are becoming, and have become, vibrant community centres supported by technology, cultural programming, music, gaming and more, that sustain, revitalize, engage and transform communities. This is reflected in the more than a \$1,000,000,000 that has been invested in libraries, in the past decade, from Oslo to Singapore to Peru. What we describe in this Annual Report is our version of this global evolution in libraries. We are community.



Montreal Museum of Fine Arts:
Marvels and Mirages of Orientalism
From Spain to Morocco, Benjamin-Constant in His Time

Special Projects and Library Outreach

New technology

> **iPads** Thanks to the generous donation of a member of our community, the Jewish Public Library received several iPads for library use.

> **Netflix** These iPads are now set up for free usage for all JPL visitors. They are equipped with Netflix, as is our newly renovated Multimedia Center.

> **eBooks** The library's eBook collection continues to grow thanks to the generosity of Sharon Steinberg. To introduce the public to this collection, an eBook workshop took place for those who had never had the experience of downloading an eBook on their computer or their mobile device.

Coding Classes

This spring, Kids Code Jeunesse hosted a weekly workshop to teach a class of JPPS students to code using MIT-designed program Scratch. The class designed their own mini game over the course of 8 weeks using concepts of character design, music integration and animation.

School visits, tours & presentations

Once the school year began, the JPL opened its doors to elementary, high school, CEGEP and University students. With general interest tours as well as workshops crafted specifically for particular student groups, the JPL staff made our collections and information more accessible.

Young Outreach Group

This year, a new group was created to help in targeting our programming to the 25-40 year old demographic. This group will enable the library to target this group specifically in its programming initiatives.

Rare Books

Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Michael Paul, Deborah Abecassis presented a public workshop of the Jewish Public Library's Antiquarian book collection.

Outreach to Russian Families

As the Russian collection is the second highest circulating one at the library, the JPL has created targeted events for this demographic, continuing the success of our annual evening of Russian culture, which celebrates its 10th anniversary in 2015.

> **Russian story time** In collaboration with PJ Library, the library hosted its first Russian story time and craft. More than 20 Russian speaking Jewish families attended this session to listen to a translated, Russian version of PJ Library's famously first book "Something from Nothing".

> **Russian book exchange** A Russian book swap, "Knigovorot", was born, enabling Russian patrons to trade books amongst themselves and with the library.

Reaching out to students, new immigrants and the unaffiliated

Outreach through collaborations

Mini-Library at the Segal Center

For the duration of the Segal Center's presentation of Duddy Kravitz, the library offered attendees the chance to browse our collection of Mordecai Richler's works in English, French and Hebrew, as well as the opportunity to learn about the history of Jewish Montreal with a mini-library display in the Segal Center's lobby.

Montreal Museum of Fine Arts

The JPL continued its successful partnership with the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts. The MMFA offered JPL members free tickets to their main exhibitions as part of their Sharing the Museum initiative. JPL members were delighted to attend the following exhibits: Marvels and Mirages of Orientalism, Rodin: Metamorphoses

Afternoon Book Reviews

The Afternoon Book Review Series grew this year, with some of our largest audiences ever! It featured best-sellers and hidden gems. Our diverse selection of talented local speakers led animated discussions: Steven Lapidus, Elaine Kalman Naves, Claire Holden Rothman, and Eva Roskies Raby.



The Norman Berman Children’s Library

The NBCL had a stellar 100th anniversary year

8 **registered preschool programs** ran for 3 sessions and welcomed 15 children plus their caregivers per class each week totaling 240 registrants per week having fun reading and singing.

2 weekly **free story times** welcomed an average of 105 children and their caregivers and daycare teachers for stories each week for 52 weeks.



The **Jewish Book Month** honoree was prolific award winning author David Adler. Having published 244 books and counting, David spoke with 1400 elementary school students from 9 Jewish and non-Jewish, public and private schools in 8 sessions over 3 days.

In addition, David spoke to the 18 members of our **Mother Daughter Book Discussion Group** and their friends with a total of 30 attending.

Our 10th anniversary **Girls’ Night Out** was completely sold out! The 300 mothers, daughters, aunts, grandmothers, librarians, volunteers, staff and patrons in the room were mesmerized with the panel discussion of our 3 New York Times bestselling authors **Gayle Forman, E. Lockhart and Sarah Mlynowski**.



Our **Holiday Concert** with Grammy award winning singer/songwriter Jennifer Gasoi was a real happening as close to 550 crowded into the Gelber on a Sunday morning. There was lots of dancing, singing and clapping going on as everyone had a great time.

Our special free story times – **Family Literacy Day** and **The Global day of Jewish Learning** welcomed 120 children and their caregivers and daycare teachers as they heard Dr. Seuss stories and books on the Jewish value of courage. Each child went home with a craft that they created as a memory of the day.

Blue Met Children’s Festival had us welcoming 300 children for well-known Canadian author Marie Louise Gay.

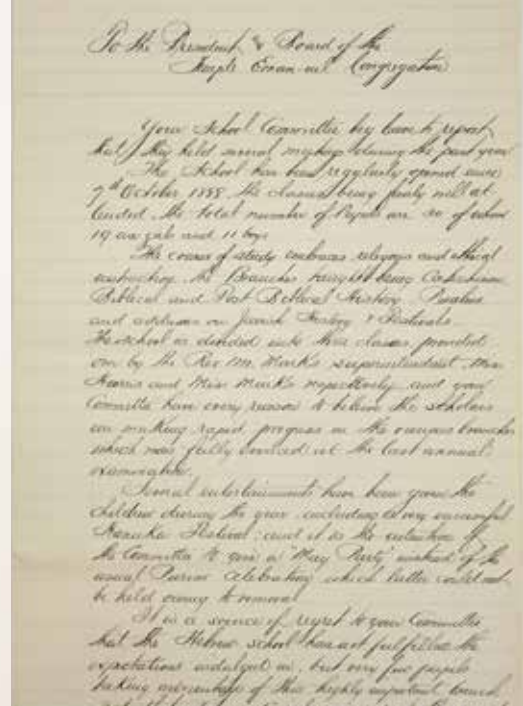
As part of the **Cultural Alliance Day**, our storyteller read great tales to the many children who attended.



Digitized flyer for Harry James and his Orchestra, Sam Gesser Fonds. October 4, 1964, Place des Arts.



With the support of the Peter and Ellen Jacobs Virtual Archives Fund, the JPL-A is able to provide digital access to increased collections, such as the sketches and etchings of Rita Briansky (pictured here) or the production material of impresario Sam Gesser.



Selection of minutes from Temple Emanu-El, 1889 – digitized and made accessible at www.cjhn.ca through the support of Sara and Irwin Tauben.

The Archives of the Jewish Public Library

For the past year the Jewish Public Library Archives (JPL-A) concentrated its efforts on continued digitization of analogue collections. The digitization of archival materials is prioritized based on researcher demand for specific documents or photographs, increasing access to materials that are fragile, as well as providing access to materials that are not yet well-known to the general public or academic community. Over the course of the next year, many of these digitized images will be brought together in virtual exhibits accessible through www.jpl-presents.org.

Research and reference requests at the JPL-A continue to increase, in part because the representation of the Archives' collections on the Canadian Jewish Heritage Network (www.cjhn.ca). These requests include assistance to other major cultural and heritage institutions such as the US National Endowment for the Arts, Pier 21 Museum, and the Quebec Ministère de l'immigration de la Diversité et de l'Inclusion. Photographs and textual documents from the JPL-A collections continue to be key in numerous publications, both fiction, non-fiction, and in film and television productions.

The JPL-A was excited to launch the **Sonia and David Oberman Archives Internship**, a project that pro-

vides support for the archives as well as professional experience for students in fields such as archival studies, Jewish studies, history, and so on. The inaugural internship was awarded to Laura Markiewicz, a doctoral candidate at McGill University's School of Information Studies. Ms. Markiewicz's internship work focused on research and planning to expand JPL-A educational materials in preparation for Montreal's 375th anniversary and Canada 150. The JPL-A extends its sincere thanks to Sonia and David Oberman for their generous support of this community's heritage.

The JPL-A collections continue to increase with **new donations of archival material** that document a wide array of community heritage, such as: the private papers of literary scholar Irving Massey, textual and ephemeral material from the Zimroh Choir, the textual and graphic records of Rubenstein Bros., Ltd., and much more.

The JPL-A would like to extend its **gratitude to its students and volunteers** for the last year.

- Andrea Ciurria (McGill University)
- Tina Ferstman (John Abbott College)
- Laura Markiewicz (McGill University)
- Elissa Sperling (McGill University)
- Alexandra Stermer (McGill University)



Di Meschugeles

An event to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Israel and Germany

Cultural Programmes 2014-2015

A total of 141 events and programmes in 5 languages with almost 10,000 people in attendance

Under the auspices of six cultural committees, there were a total of 141 events and programmes in five languages: English, French, Hebrew, Yiddish, and Russian.

Courses:

- 16 Beginner Yiddish classes
- 18 Intermediate Yiddish classes
- 23 Advanced Yiddish classes
- 8 sessions on Jewish Culture
- 6 sessions on Creative Writing (in conjunction with Cummings Centre for Seniors)

Jewish Genealogical Society of Montreal:

- 10 Sunday Morning Workshops
- 8 Lectures
- 1 Film screening

Events:

- 3 Author Readings
- 6 Book Reviews
- 1 *Conversations* event
- 8 Films
- Israeli Film Festival with 5 movies
- 14 Lectures and Book Launches, including Bloomsday
- 12 Special Events
- 2 Yiddish Café

ATTENDANCE

English events	5,911
French events	243
Hebrew events	2,886
Yiddish events	475
Russian events	440

TOTAL **9,955**

Courses

Jewish Culture Course

“Y.L. Peretz: Father of the Yiddish Renaissance”

Janie Respitz led a course on Y.L. Peretz. One hundred years since his death, this great Yiddish writer, poet and dramatist is still revered as one of the best and most influential writers.

Yiddish language courses

The JPL Yiddish courses were a resounding success this past year! With a Beginners, Intermediate and Advanced Course to select from, anyone with an interest in the language had the chance to enrich their skills. Our dedicated instructors, Sheila Witt and Lorna Smith, welcomed those passionate about learning and discovering the joys of Yiddish.

Highlights

As a centre for Jewish culture, the Jewish Public Library flourished this past year, offering exceptional adult programming and bringing high caliber authors and films to Montreal.

September 2014

► *Is Art worth a Life? Hitler, War and the Monuments Men*, with Robert Edsel, who challenged the members of the audience to come to their own conclusions regarding the risks and sacrifices involved in the preservation of art and culture. Sponsored by The Max Margles Memorial Fund and Roslyn Margles.

October 2014

► *The Future of the Past: The Jewish Public Library of Montreal, 1914-2014*, a one-day conference in honour of the centennial of the JPL.

November 2014

► JBM KEYNOTE *An Evening with Daniel Mendelsohn: 'People of the Book' in an Era without Books*, an exploration of what might happen to the "people of the book" in these times of technology. Sponsored by The Marvin A. Drimer Foundation.

► *Gary Shteyngart in Conversation with Eleanor Wachtel*, discussing his latest novel, *Little Failure*. In collaboration with Blue Metropolis. Sponsored by The Norman Berman Memorial Lecture Fund.

► *One Hundred Years of Gratitude*. Our 9th annual evening of Russian culture, honouring JPL community members. Sponsored by The Strategic Charitable Foundation, Barbara and Ronny Kay, Henriette and Marcel Korner, and AGATE Russian Books.

► *The J.I. Segal Awards Gala 2014*, awarding the winners in nine categories for their creative work on Jewish themes:

> Dr. Hirsh and Dora Rosenfeld Award for Yiddish and Hebrew Literature: Boris Sandler for *Lamed-Vovnikes Fun Mayn Zikorn*

> English Fiction and Poetry Award on a Jewish Theme: Dan Vyleta for *Crooked Maid*

> English Non-Fiction Award on a Jewish Theme: Gil Troy for *Moynihan's Moment*

> French Literature Award on a Jewish Theme: Perla Serfaty Garzon for *Vieillesse et engendrements*

> Canadian Jewish Studies Award for Best Book in English or French: Gerald Tulchinsky for *Joe Salsberg: A Life of Commitment*

> Azrieli Institute Award for Best Book in Israel Studies in English or French: Anita Shapira for *Israel: A History*

> Translation Award for a Book on a Jewish Theme: Denis Vageois for *The First Jews in North America*

> Michael Moskovitz Award for a Film on a Jewish Theme: Vladimir Kabelik for *Beautifully Broken*

► 8th Annual Israeli Film Festival. 5 movie premieres. Sponsored by The Chaim and Clara Spielberg Endowment Fund.

► *Violins of Hope*, presented by author Dr. James A. Grymes and accompanied by music. Dr. Grymes' new book tells the stories of violins played by Jewish musicians during the Holocaust and recovered and restored by Israeli violin-maker Amnon Weinstein Sponsored by the Jewish Public Library, the Montreal Holocaust Memorial Centre and the Segal Centre for Performing Arts.

► *Of Many*, a film by Linda Mills about the relationship between an Orthodox rabbi and an imam. Screening was attended by the film's subjects, Imam Khalid Latif and Rabbi Yehuda Sarna. Sponsored by the Miriam Schachter Vineberg Foundation.

► Eshkol Nevo on *Neuland*. Discussion of and readings from this Israeli writer's novel, *Neuland*. In collaboration with Blue Metropolis. Sponsored by The Mervin (Mesh) and Avriel Butovsky Memorial Lecture.

► *A Life in Four Acts* with author Jacques La Salle, who read from his autobiography. Introduced by the Honourable Herbert Marx, former Minister of Justice. Sponsored by the Consul General of Israel and Adriana and the late Haim Kotler z"l Lecture.

January – February 2015

March 2015

April 2015

May 2015

► Conversations – A Public Lecture with Author Laura Silver: *Knish: In Search of the Jewish Soul Food*. A dinner, talk, and movie screening. Sponsored by The Helen Bassel Endowment, The Henry & Berenice Kaufmann Foundation, and CJCS. In cooperation with the Hadassah-Brandeis Institute.

► *Suspicious Minds* with authors Ian Gold and Joel Gold, a discussion of how the brain is shaped by interactions with the social world. Sponsored by Freda and Irwin Browns.

► *Friends Forever*, an Austrian film directed by Wolfram Paulus about two boys who take part in a Nazi programme, until one of them is discovered to have Jewish roots. Sponsored by The Delores and Harry Rosen Fund.

June 2015

► *Di Meschugeles*, an evening of Klezmer music in commemoration of the 50th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between Germany and Israel. Sponsored by JPL and Consulates General of Germany and Israel in Montreal.

► *The Most Dangerous Book*, by and with Kevin Birmingham. Closing event for Bloomsday 2015. Sponsored by The Joseph Kage Cultural Endowment Fund, The Philip and Gertrude Batist Memorial Endowment Fund.

World premiere of “Chava Rosenfarb: That Bubble of Being” Josh Waletzky and the League for Yiddish presented the World Premiere of the Yiddish film. In this film Montreal's own Chava Rosenfarb, noted Yiddish writer and major Holocaust literary figure. The film was followed by a panel discussion with director Josh Waletzky, Anna Fishman Gonshor, and Chava Rosenfarb's daughter, Goldie Morgentaler. Sponsored by the Lashinsky Epstein Endowment Fund and the Yetta Feldman Chmiel Endowment, with the support of the League for Yiddish.

Silent Movie “Hungry Hearts” by E. Mason Hopper. Based on the short stories of Anzia Yezierska, the first writer to bring stories of American Jewishwomen to a mainstream audience, *Hungry Hearts* focused on the members of the Levin family who emigrated from Eastern Europe to New York City's Lower East Side. Sponsored by the Miriam Blacher Glasrot and Josef Glasrot Endowment.

My Silent Pledge: A Journey of Struggle, Survival and Remembrance with author Sidney Zoltak 220 people attended this free book launch, hosted with our partner library, the Eleanor London Côte Saint-Luc Public Library.

Yiddish Café:

Love Café: Our yearly love café took place in February, bringing Yiddish speakers together for an evening of entertainment and pleasure. Our theme this year was “*Love Makes Life So Sweet!*”

Evening in Honour of Sholem Aleichem: The annual Evening in Honour of Sholem Aleichem was a huge success this year. Songs, spoken word poetry and a full house. Talented local artists performed Yiddish and English readings and songs. Sponsored by the Chana Gonshor and Etta Michtom Miransky Funds.



100th Anniversary Birthday part at the Cavendish Mall

Marketing & Communications

Close to 1,000 people came to celebrate the JPL's 100th birthday

The Marketing and Communications department has been hard at work modernizing JPL branding and raising the profile of the library through several initiatives.

Here is a brief overview of some of the things that have been accomplished during the past year:

Media

> “JPL Corner” in the Canadian Jewish News

This monthly column, as part of the CJN's editorial and written by the JPL, has been so well received that it has been extended indefinitely by the CJN – it was initially to last from May 2014 - May 2015, the 100th anniversary year of the library.

The *JPL Corner* covers a wide range of topics related to the library that are relevant to CJN readers. From human interest stories, to reading recommendations, to an analysis of what culture really means in this day and age, as examples, *JPL Corner* is carefully crafted to showcase the vast array JPL offerings through heart-warming and relatable articles.

> Extensive media coverage surrounding the 100th anniversary, including:

- CTV News National story
- Montreal Gazette feature story (with full front page photo)
- Radio Canada – « C'est pas trop tot »
- Global Montreal Morning Show segment
- The national edition of the Canadian Jewish News
- The Suburban
- Montreal Jewish Magazine
- Actualites CDN/NDG
- The Free Press

In addition, the JPL has had coverage on other topics, including advance interviews with JPL guests, our exhibit at BanQ, our Rare Book Workshops, and others, with the following media outlets:

- Global evening news
- CBC Radio “All in a weekend”
- CJAD “The Tommy Schnurmacher Show”
- The Gazette
- The Free Press
- Canadian Jewish News
- Montreal Families
- The Suburban
- The Westmount Examiner
- The Senior Times
- The Jewish Tribune (no longer exists)

Almost all our events are listed on various local community calendars, blogs, websites and lists. Media is notified of events through press releases that are sent out to all print, radio, tv, and web media in advance of all happenings and events.

Social Media

- Facebook – We have more than doubled our Facebook page following over the past year, and are working diligently to share and promote events, articles and news through this channel. We have tested two paid campaigns for specific events to great success.
- Twitter – We have developed our Twitter account and are actively tweeting. We are followed by key dignitaries, members of the media, organizations, both local and international, and individuals.
- Continually working on new social media strategies and researching, monitoring and keeping abreast of all the latest social media trends and platforms.

Website, server and eNewsletter

- We transitioned to MailChimp – an email marketing service provider that provides us with more flexibility in targeted email marketing and measuring results.
- In addition to the *Happenings* emails that facilitate communications to our more than 4,000 subscribers sent two to three times per month, we launched a new initiative, the *JPL Insider*. This email marketing tool is all about the amazing things that **you** are doing to help us serve our vibrant community!
- We are working on updating our website.

Environmental Design

- Updating internal signage throughout the facility in keeping with modernizing our corporate look.
- Creating new plaques and donor boards.

Advertising

- The biannual program brochure remains to be our #1 marketing tool promoting all events, programs and courses the JPL and the NBCL have to offer. Highly anticipated, it serves 6,000 Montreal households as a handy guide to cultural offerings.
- We continue to advertise our events on CJAD 800 radio and in various newspapers.
- Flyers and ads for new plaques and donor boards.

Events

- A 100th Birthday bash at Quartier Cavendish (Cavendish Mall) was held in the fall. Close to 1,000 people attended this marketing and outreach event geared towards young families which was promoted, almost entirely, through social media and the web. The event included a dance show by the students of Tyler Anne School of Dance, a singing performance by Linda Kravitz, craft activities, carnival games, raffles, face painting, concessions and a guest appearance by Cote Saint Luc mayor Anthony Housefather.
- We are currently working on outreach initiatives for 30-50 year olds.



100 YEARS

Fundraising

The 100th
Anniversary
Endowment
Campaign raised
over \$3 million

Fundraising efforts have been in full force throughout the year at the JPL and we are very excited to report that, as of July 30, 2015, we have received gifts and pledges totalling over \$3 million. Gifts received thus far have permitted us to build our endowment and to offer a number of exciting new lectures, collections and activities.

We wish to express our most heartfelt thanks to the many donors from throughout the community who have shown their generosity, through gifts in support of the Campaign. We could not have come this far without the help of each and every one of you.

We extend our deepest gratitude to the **Gold and Cummings families** who lovingly remember **Norma Cummings z"l**, through a major gift in support of the Friends of the Jewish Public Library, a group that Norma founded, built and nurtured, over decades. To recognize Norma's contribution, the annual Friends Keynote Cocktail Reception, which she most graciously hosted in her home for many years, will be named the Norma Cummings Friends Keynote Cocktail.

The JPL also wishes to express its sincerest thanks to **The Morris and Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation** that, through its exceptional generosity, will ensure the continuity and excellence of our cultural programs with the creation of the *Rosalind Goodman Cultural Institute*, in loving memory of **Rosalind Goodman z"l**, a remarkable woman and exceptional community leader. The JPL

is very grateful to the Goodman family for their staunch and long-standing commitment to Jewish culture and to our community's library.

The JPL saw an outpouring of support from the community for the 100th Anniversary, this year. In particular, we are deeply appreciative of the tremendous generosity of major donors **Sharon Steinberg**, for her generous support of our *new eBook Collection*, **Jane and Herschel Segal**, **The Trottier Family Foundation**, **Liba Augenfeld**, **The Blema and Arnold Steinberg Family Foundation**, **Dundi and Lyon Sachs**, **The Becker-Newpol Family Foundation** and **Delores and Harry Rosen** for their most generous gifts.

We give our very special thanks to our Board of Directors and President's Council and to our Development Advisory Council members: Beverlee Ashmele, Bill Bell, Irwin Browns, Marvin Corber, Peter Jacobs, Alain Murad, Eva Raby, Mickey Rosenthal, Gerald Soiferman and Harvey Wolfe. Their advice, support, and most generous gifts have been an engine of force behind the 100th Campaign.

The table on the following pages list donors who made gifts of \$5,000 and more to the 100th Campaign. We are also very grateful to the many other donors whose generosity has moved the Campaign forward.

Once again this year, we are most grateful for the host of gifts we received from our many generous donors to

ensure the success of Jewish Book Month and other cultural programs. Warmest thanks to the **Marvin A. Drimer Foundation, The Morris and Beverly Baker Foundation, Barbara and Ronny Kay, Adriana and the late Haim Kotler, z”l, The Strategic Charitable Giving Foundation, Assaf Drori, and Henriette and Marcel Korner**, among others, for supporting our programs.

On November 16, 2014, the Norman Berman Children’s Library (NBCL) held its special 100th Anniversary 10th Annual *Girls’ Night Out* event in tandem with the launch of the TD Young Adult Collection. The JPL extends its sincere thanks to the hardworking Girls’ Night Out organizing committee, our sponsors and donors and over 300 guests who made the 10th Annual event a major celebration! The JPL extends a very special thank-you to the event’s title sponsor, **Schwartz Levitsky Feldman**, platinum sponsor **Mitchel-Lincoln Packaging**, as well as **Susan Tepner Novack** from TD, the evening’s patron dinner sponsor.

We are sincerely grateful to the **Borough of Côte-des-Neiges–Notre-Dame-de-Grâce**, for its grant in support of collections and services; **Service Canada** for two Summer Student grants, **the Alex Dworkin Foundation for Jewish Archives, the Peter and Ellen Jacobs Virtual Archives Fund, The Sonia and David Oberman Archival Internship Fund**, and **Sara and Irwin Tauben** for gifts in support of the JPL Archives. Our deepest gratitude goes to **Doherty & Associates**, for their generous grants in support of Library operations. Many of our fine services and programmes could not continue, were it not for the support of these generous donors.

The Library and its Friends were broken hearted by the loss of a tremendous philanthropist, Rosalind Goodman, z”l, who was a Friend of the JPL and Honorary Director of the JPL Board. We were also deeply saddened by the loss of long-time Friends and supporters Immanuel Braverman z”l and Harry Pinker z”l. The JPL expresses great sadness, too, at the loss of Neri Bloomfield z”l and Bessie Doubilet z”l, the JPL’s longest standing member. We were also deeply saddened by the loss of Nina Baker, a long-time member and generous supporter of the JPL.

The JPL was once again most fortunate to be in the hearts and minds of so many, throughout the community, who gave generously to our Library, this year, in celebration of birthdays and special occasions and in commemoration of loved ones lost. These thoughtful and generous gifts funded book purchases and endowed

programs. We extend our special thanks to the **Estate of Ruth Leith** and the **Estate of Charles Maldoff** as well as to the many other families who left us generous bequests and made planned gifts to ensure the future of our Library.

Thanks to our 100th Anniversary Donors (\$5,000 and more)

\$500,000

Roslyn and the late Max Margles z”l
Alvin Segal Family Foundation
Anonymous

\$100,000

The Cummings and Gold Families in loving memory of
Norma Cummings z”l
The Morris and Rosalind Goodman Family Foundation

\$50,000 to \$75,000

Gelmont Foundation
Norman Heimlich
Peter and Ellen Jacobs
Virtual Archives Fund
Adriana and the late Haim Kotler z”l
Jane and Herschel Segal
Sharon Steinberg
TD Bank Financial Group
The Trottier Family Foundation
Anonymous

\$20,000 to \$49,999

Liba Augenfeld
The Becker Newpol Family Foundation
Trudy Cusmariu and Aaron Ain
Marvin A. Drimer Foundation
Dr. Michael David Paul
Protech Foundation
Delores and Harry Rosen
Dundi and Lyon Sachs
Blema and Arnold Steinberg
Family Foundation

\$10,000 to \$19,999

Freda and Irwin Browns
Mitzi & Mel Dobrin Family Foundation
Liane Feldman and Hillel Rosen
Rosa and David z”l Finestone and Family
Bryna and Michael Garmaise
Gewurz Family Foundation
Ethel and Michael Gold & Family
Riva and Thomas O. Hecht

The Generations Fund and the
Jewish Community Foundation of Montreal
The Henry and Berenice Kaufmann Foundation
in tribute to Marion Greenwood
In loving memory of George Kon z”l and Marion Kon z”l
Pearl and Saul Lighter
Jane Mappin and Nicholas Kasirer
Mitchel-Lincoln Packaging
Sonia and David Oberman
Danielle Pollack
Sandra and Ira Robinson
Michael Rosenthal
Julie Shugarman and Ilan Gewurz
Soryl and Gerald Soiferman
Mireille and Murray Steinberg Family Foundation
Sara and Irwin Tauben
Norman Zavalkoff Family Foundation
Anonymous

\$5,000 to \$9,999

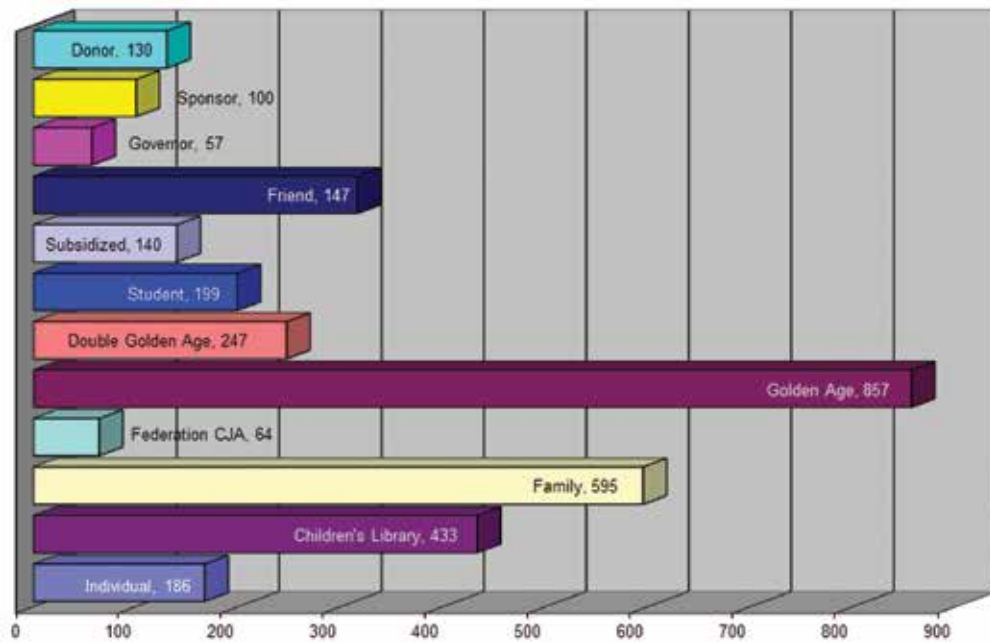
Cindy Bassel Brown, Jeff Brown, Jeremy,
 Alexandra and Hannah
Jackie Bassel, Michael Flatt, Joanna, Mitchell and Jason
Dana and Bill Bell and
 Felice z”l and Barry Pascal and Family
Robert Bohbot
Rivka Butovsky in memory of Mervin (Mesh) z”l
 and Avriel Butovsky z”l
In celebration of Alexis z”l, Ethan and Liam Crelinsten
Claire Berger Fagen and Alvin Fagen
Harriet and Marvin Corber
Raizel Fishman Candib and Anna Fishman Gonshor
Nina and Harry Hart
Canadian Heritage
Alta and Harvey Levenson
Gustav Levinschi Foundation
The Honourable and Mrs. E. Leo Kolber
Robin Scott Mader
In Memory of Charles Maldoff z”l
Lois and Daniel Miller
Marilyn and Paul Nayer
Paperman & Sons
Miriam Roland
Roslyn and Abraham Slawner
Leesa Steinberg
Brenda Stermer
Gloria Stermer and Alain Murad
Mrs. Nathan Stermer
Vicki and Stanley Zack
Anonymous



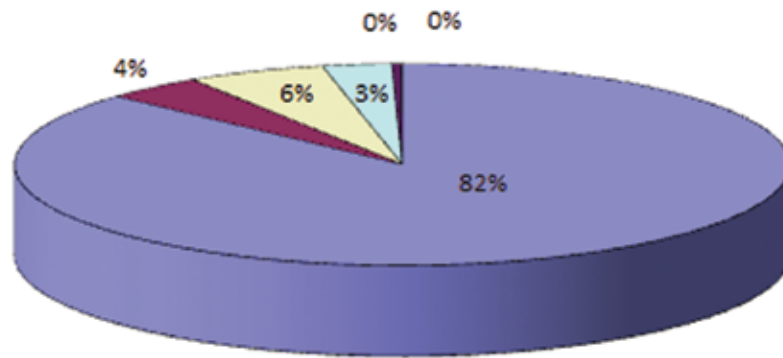
Statistics

In 2014 the Library counted 3,305 members that were composed of the following membership categories.

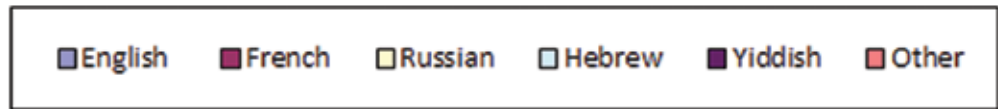
Membership by category



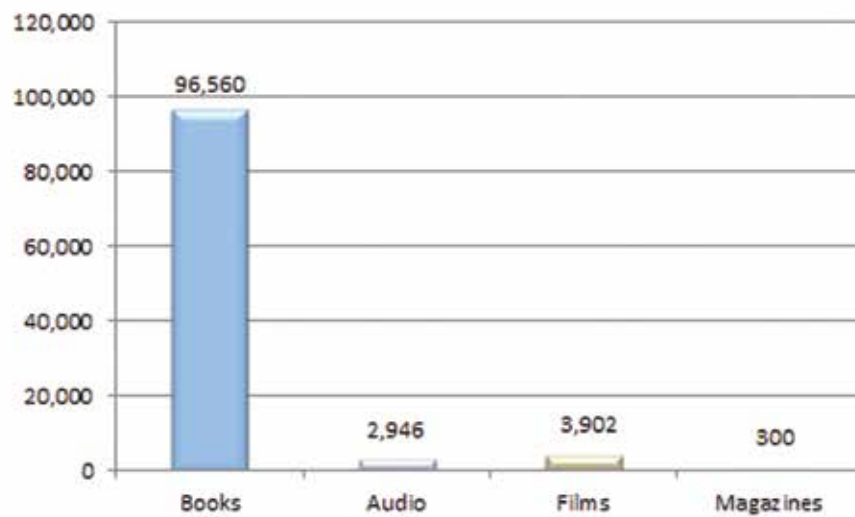
Circulation by language 2014



102,312 items were circulated in 2014. The chart shows the split by language.

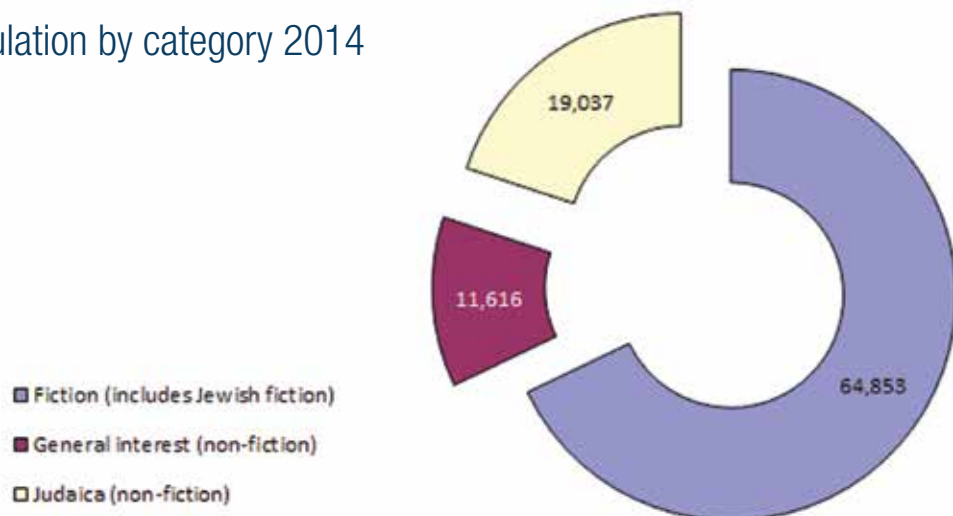


Circulation by medium 2014



This chart demonstrates the circulating items by medium in 2014.

Circulation by category 2014



The items circulated in 2014 by category (does not include music or DVDs).



Members of the Management Committee and Board of Directors, 1933-34

Executive, Board of Directors 2014-15

Officers

- Claire Berger Fagen,**
President
- Alain Murad,**
Immediate Past-President
- Rivka Augenfeld,**
Vice President
- Jennifer Gold,**
Vice President
- Janis Levine,**
Vice President
- Robert Bohbot, CPA, CA,**
Treasurer
- Mia Swartzman Barsheshat,**
Secretary
- Michael Crelinsten,**
Executive Director

Directors

- Esther Terry Ades
Julien Bauer
Cindy Bassel
Brown
Carla Burshtein
Susan Elias
Marc Felgar
Trudis Goldsmith-Reber
Adriana Kotler
Howard Krosnick
Marilyn Nayer
Danielle Pollack
Jewel Sarna
Julie Shugarman
Roslyn Slawner
Sharon Steinberg
Father John Walsh
Dana Zinman
Shannon Gaskell, Staff Representative

Presidents' Council

- Alain Murad, Chair
Aaron Ain
Joanne Garfinkle
Bryna Garmaise
Anna Gonshor
Aron Gonshor
Peter Jacobs
Emmanuel Kalles
Barbara Kay
Lilian Laks
Alice Lehrer
Daniel Lighter
Murray Lippman
Irwin Litvack
Janie Respitz
Ira Robinson
Gerald Soiferman

Honorary Directors

- Liba Augenfeld
Rachel Cohen
Norma Cummings, z"l
Rosalind Goodman, z"l
Pearl Lighter
Hillel Rosen
Howard Schnider
The late Liliane M. Stewart
Ernest Strolovitch
Murray Yudin

Nominating Committee

- Alain Murad,
Chair/Président Rivka Augenfeld
Marc Felgar
Janis Levine
Robin Mader
Roslyn Slawner
Gerry Soiferman
Michael Crelinsten,
Executive Director

Ombudsman

- Oscar Respitz, Q.C.

Library Committees 2014-15

Cultural Programming Committees

Cultural Programming Coordinating Committee

Ira Robinson, Chair
Rivka Augenfeld
Claire Berger Fagen
Raizel Candib
Miri Flakowicz
Lynda Gold
Trudis Goldsmith-Reber
Louise Goldstein
Merle Kastner
Estie Kleinfeld
Tova Lazimi
Marilyn Nayer
Eugene Orenstein
Jewel Sarna
Shoshana Sebag
Roz Slawner
Janice Steinberg

English Programming Committee

Trudis Reber Goldsmith, Co-Chair
Jewel Sarna, Co-Chair
Stanley Asher
Ruth Ballon
Cindy Bassel Brown
Claire Berger Fagen
Shirley Braverman
Freda Browns
Carla Burshtein
Miriam Cohen
Lynda Gold
Louise Goldstein
Edna Janco
Pearl Lighter
Robin Mader
Roslyn Margles
Gregory McCormick
Marilyn Nayer
Ruth Plotnick
Marm Rapp

Ira Robinson
Delores Rosen
Helen Segal
Arlene Slepchik
Janice Steinberg
Brenda Stermer
Claire Stern

French Programming Committee

Sophie Jama, Chair
Robert Abitbol
Sylvia Assouline
Claire Berger Fagen
Julia Coriat
Evelyne Dahan
Anna Dysert
Philippe Elharrar
Hélène Engel
Mireille Galanti
Jacques La Salle
Tova Lazimi
Ira Robinson
Gérard Samet

Hebrew Programming Committee

Miri Flakowicz, Co-Chair
Shoshana Sebag, Co-Chair
Hanna Afuta
Michal Attias
Mia Barsheshat
Dado Ben Brith
Claire Berger Fagen
Margaux Chetrit
Hanna Eliashiv
Jennifer Gold
Yael Gutman
Edna Janco
Eytan Kern
Estie Kleinfeld
Oscar Parry
Talia Patcher
Miriam Rosenblum
Menachem Rotstein
Robert Schultz
Shmulik Spiegelman
Samuel Suss

Yiddish Cultural Committee

Eugene Orenstein, Co-Chair
Rivka Augenfeld, Co-Chair
Sylvia Aikins
Liba Augenfeld
Celina Brettschneider
Raizel Candib
Esther Frank
Anne Glassman
Anna Fishman Gonshor
Matthew Meland
Doris Resnick
Janie Respitz
Boris Sela
Goldie Sigal
Naomi Tencer

J.I. Segal Committee

Robert Schwartzwald, Chair
Rivka Augenfeld
Claire Berger Fagen
Marc Felgar
Rosa Finestone
Esther Frank
Eugene Orenstein
Norman Rawin
Beverly Shaffer

Girls' Night Out Committee

Joy Melnick-Smith, Chair
Tina Apfeld
Cindy Bassel Brown
Tracey Blonder
Bonnie Feigenbaum
Fe Flores
Joanne Garfinkle
Heidi Majnemer
Talya Pardo
Noemi Scheinfeld
Jennifer Solomon
Tamara Stendel
Susan Tepner Novack
Leigh Zimmer
Dana Zinman

Outreach committee

Lainie Berger Davis
Andee Shuster
Andrea Borod
Stephanie Weinstein
Keren Ludvig
Tamara Kramer
Flannery Brown
James Gutman

Administrative Committees

Budget and Investment committee

Robert Bohbot, CPA, CA, Chair
Howard Berish
Claire Berger Fagen
Norman Heimlich
Alan Murad

Governance (By-laws ad-hoc) Committee

Rivka Augenfeld, Chair
Claire Berger Fagen
Howard Berish
Robert Bohbot
Rachel Cohen
Norman Heimlich
Alan Murad
Danielle Pollack
Julie Shugarman

Development Advisory Council

Peter Jacobs, Co-Chair
Gerald Soiferman, Co-Chair
Beverlee Ashmele
Bill Bell
Irwin Browns
Marvin Corber
Jennifer Gold
Irwin Litvack
Alain Murad
Eva Raby
Micky Rosenthal
Harvey Wolfe

Membership & Marketing Committee

Marilyn Nayer, Co-Chair
Stanley Diamond
Howard Krosnick
Robin Mader
Jewel Sarna
Roslyn Slawner
Slepchik Arlene
Heather Sokoloff
Father John Walsh
Dana Zinman (Lohner)

Materials Collection Committee

Ira Robinson, Chair
Anna Fishman Gonshor
André Elbaz
Sophie Jama
Eugene Orenstein
Rhona Blanskay

Strategic Planning Committee

Dan Cohen
Marc Felgar
Jennifer Gold
Roslyn Slawner
Julie Shugarman
Gerry Soiferman

Library Staff 2014-15

ADMINISTRATION

Michael Crelinsten
Executive Director

Natalia Konovalova
Accounting-Membership

Allan J. Oberman
Director of Operations

Angelina Spilberg
Executive Assistant

ADULT LIBRARY

Daniela Ansovini
Archivist

Karen Biskin (on maternity
leave as of June 2015)
Head of Library Services
& Community Outreach

Andrea Ciurria
Part time Reference

Janet Forbath
Circulation Assistant

Shannon Hodge
Director, Archives

Oxana Pasternak
Circulation Assistant

Eddie Paul
Head of Bibliographic and
Information Services

Ivy Rabinovitch
Circulation Assistant

Maria Ressina
(until June 2015)
Bibliographic and
Information Services

(as of June 2015)
Head of Library Services
& Community Outreach

Valentina Rojinskaia
Serials Cataloguer/
Reference Librarian

Elissa Sperling Ciurria
Part time Reference

Eleanor Steinberg
Head of Circulation

Eddie Stone
Hebraica Cataloguer/
Reference Librarian

NORMAN BERMAN CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

Janice Cohen
Programs & Technical
Services

Penny Fransblow
Director, Norman Berman
Children's Library

Jessica Maldoff
Cataloging, Social Media,
Reference

Debby Mayman
Cataloging, Marketing
and Programming

PROGRAMMING, MARKETING & FUNDRAISING

Roxana Brauns
Director, Programming

Cindy Davis
Public Relations
Coordinator

Isolde Dyson
Programming Assistant

Shannon Gaskell
(until March 2015)
Financial Development
Officer
(as of April 2015)
Director, Development

Leo Hubermann
Director, Marketing &
Communications

Susan Schiffman
Director, Development
(until March 2015)

Thank you to our Volunteers

The Jewish Public Library exists only with the support of the community and the hard work and determination of its many volunteers and layperson committee members. In addition to the many exceptional individuals who work on our library committees, we have an army of volunteers who bring their skills and dedication to support library services and programmes in all sorts of ways. Some of these tasks include shelving, delivery of books to our frail elderly, data entry, and book processing. They contribute hours and hours of their time each week. This contribution is greatly appreciated.

We would like to thank the following:

Main Library

Connie Abramovitch
Sylvie Baril
Andrea Ciurria
Haim Derai
Deborupa Dhar
Roslyn Dorenfeld
Adam Dumitru
Emily Dumitru
Diane Ellen
Lydia Ermakov
Korobinskaya
Tzvi Fradkin
Rifka Gniwisch
Victoria Galperin
Regina Halperin
Barbara Harris
Eiran Harris
Suzanne Herscovitch
Malca Hubner
Diane Israel
Didier Kaade
Penny Levine
Esther Levy

Ian Levitt

Phyllis Rudin
Brittany Wright
Mona Wu

Student Intern from the McGill School of Information Studies

Amber Laude

Staff Volunteers

Janice Cohen
Cindy Davis
Janet Forbath
Penny Fransblow
Jessica Maldoff
Debby Mayman
Oxana Pasternak
Ivy Rabinovitch
Maria Ressina
Valentina Rojinskaya
Eleanor Steinberg
Angelina Spielberg

Children's Library

Mary Etzitian
Emma Lanza
Phyllis Rudin

Student volunteers completing community hours

Aaron Lohner
Shana Kleiner Graur
Molly Lohner
Hannah Nizard
Deborah Nizard

Archives

Tina Ferstman
Andrea Ciurria
Alexandra Stermer
Maurice Amiel
Elissa Sperling