



YIVO
INSTITUTE
FOR JEWISH
RESEARCH



NEWSLETTER
Fall 2025

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MAKE AN IMPACT

As we celebrate our Centennial, we take this time to reflect on YIVO's history in America. It is only with the support of our contributors that YIVO has been able to continue realizing the mission of its founders. As the High Holidays approach, we invite you to become a member and join YIVO's Centennial Honor Roll in support of our Centennial Campaign.

Your support will fuel new initiatives, keeping stories alive through our public programs, language and history classes, exhibitions, archival and library preservation, and procurement of new collections.

From all of us at YIVO, thank you!

Melissa S. Cohen

Melissa S. Cohen
Chief Development Officer

For 100 years,

the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research has preserved and shared the story of Ashkenazi Jewish life—its culture, language, resilience, and evolution. Through our rich collections, dynamic programs, and robust educational initiatives, we illuminate the past and help shape the future of the Jewish people. As the global hub for Yiddish scholarship and heritage, YIVO remains essential to keeping this legacy alive. Join us as we celebrate a century of impact and begin YIVO's next hundred years.

Our celebration lasts all year!

Look for this icon  in the newsletter to learn about more Centennial-related programming, news, and special projects.

For the most up-to-date information, visit:
yivo.org/centennial

COVER:
Audience members at the *YIVO in America* conference on June 23, 2025. Photo by Robin Michals.

RIGHT:
Shelves in the new YIVO Learning and Media Center display specially selected items from our collections.

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

As we continue to celebrate YIVO's centennial year, I'm honored to share highlights from 2025 and a look at what's ahead.

This year, we've deepened our commitment to YIVO's mission through public programs, research, and education that connect the richness of Jewish history to the challenges of today. Our events have addressed urgent issues such as the global rise of antisemitism, while also celebrating Jewish creativity through music, literature, and cultural exploration.

We've welcomed many thousands of participants—both in person and online—to explore our archive of over 24 million documents and objects. Our educational offerings have expanded, with new online courses in Yiddish literature, Jewish intellectual history, and Eastern European Jewish life. And we celebrated the launch of the second exhibition of the YIVO Bruce and Francesca Cernia Slovin Online Museum based on the life and ghetto diary of Yitskhok Rudashevski and the opening of a dedicated physical space for our new Learning & Media Center.

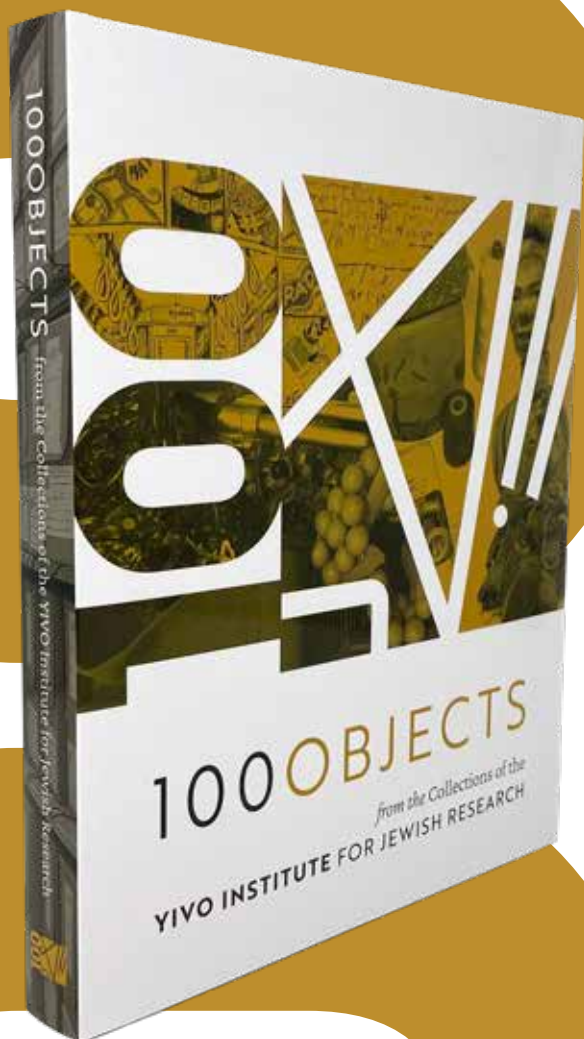
Looking ahead, our fall and winter seasons will feature special centennial programs honoring YIVO's founding in Vilna and its enduring global legacy. We invite you to join us in these ongoing conversations and celebrations.

Thank you for being part of our vibrant community. Your support ensures that YIVO's mission—preserving and advancing Jewish knowledge—continues for the next hundred years and beyond.



Jonathan Brent

Executive Director & CEO



...a collage-like portrait of Jewish communities across eras and continents... often surprising... lavishly illustrated... Seen together, [the 100 objects] present a vital history of Jewish communities across the centuries and around the world...

— *THE WALL STREET JOURNAL*, Diane Cole



[The objects] serve as fascinating windows, all the more tantalizing for the ordinary roles they once played in people's lives... a book to dip in and out of repeatedly, humbled each time by the weight of history.

— *THE WASHINGTON POST*, Book Club, Ron Charles

100 Objects from the Collections of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

Edited and with introductions by Stefanie Halpern
Published in 2025

Available from the YIVO Store:
yivo-institute.myshopify.com

CENTENNIAL HONOR ROLL

In honor of our milestone centennial year, we have established a Centennial Honor Roll. Commitments in support of our Centennial made in addition to membership or annual gifts will ensure that YIVO can continue to grow our archives, programs, education, and capacity, so we can continue this essential work for the next 100 years and beyond. The list here reflects pledges and cash payments.

Learn more and become a supporter at:
yivo.org/centennial-honor-roll

Centennial Founder's Circle

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INFORMATION

Programs

Fall 2025

For event registration, more information, and program updates: yivo.org/calendar

TUE
SEP
16

1:00pm ET

Polish Jewish Collecting and Museums, 1891–1941

BOOK TALK | ON ZOOM

Sarah Ellen Zarrow, in conversation with Jeffrey Shandler, places Jewish ethnographic practice and art collection within a Polish context, and sheds light on ways in which ideas about belonging and national identity were negotiated in museums.

THU
SEP
18

7:00pm ET

The Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language

ANNUAL NUSAKH VILNE MEMORIAL PROGRAM | IN PERSON

PRESENTED BY YIVO IN COLLABORATION AND WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM AMERICAN OPERA PROJECTS, THE LEAGUE FOR YIDDISH, THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR JEWISH MUSIC, AND THE CONSULATE GENERAL OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA IN NEW YORK; CO-SPONSORED BY NUSAKH VILNE



Join YIVO for the world premiere production of a new chamber opera with music by Pulitzer Prize finalist Alex Weiser and libretto by Ben Kaplan, which tells the remarkable true story of Yiddish linguist Yudel Mark's unfinished effort to create a comprehensive Yiddish dictionary.

SUN
SEP
21

1:00pm ET

"Yiddish Pills" and Summer Thrills: Reconstituting Yiddishism at Camp Hemshekh

LECTURE | IN PERSON & ON ZOOM

THIS EVENT FORMS PART OF A SERIES HELD IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE DIGITIZATION OF YIVO'S JEWISH LABOR AND POLITICAL ARCHIVES (ULPA)

In this talk, Sandra Fox will discuss how the founders and leaders of Camp Hemshekh embraced the sleepaway camp as a potential cure for Yiddish cultural and linguistic decline, and how they created a new purpose for and style of Yiddishism for the postwar moment.

THU
OCT
16

7:00pm ET

The Tourist's Guide to Lost Yiddish New York City

BOOK TALK | ON ZOOM

CO-SPONSORED BY THE AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORICAL SOCIETY

Henry H. Sapoznik offers a vivid and entertaining look at New York's lush Ashkenazic past and present that showcases the culture's persistent resiliency, in a conversation led by Eddy Portnoy.

THU
OCT
23

1:00pm ET

Modern Jewish Worldmaking Through Yiddish Children's Literature

BOOK TALK | ON ZOOM

Miriam Udel, in conversation with Marjorie Ingall, shows how Yiddish authors confronted practical limits on their ability to forge a fully realized nation of their own and focused instead on making a symbolic and conceptual world for Jewish children to inhabit with dignity, justice, and joy.

MON
OCT
27

12:00pm ET

The Jewish Inn in Polish Culture

PANEL DISCUSSION | ON ZOOM

Halina Goldberg, Glenn Dynner, Beth Holmgren, and Eliza Rose highlight a newly published volume about the Jewish inn, a central pillar of economic and social life in Polish lands before World War II.

WED
OCT
29

1:00pm ET

THU
OCT
30

6:30pm ET

The Grolier Club Celebrates YIVO's 100 Objects from the Collections Book

BOOK TALK | IN PERSON AT THE GROLIER CLUB

PRESENTED BY THE GROLIER CLUB



Join YIVO Director of Collections Stefanie Halpern for a discussion that highlights how *100 Objects from the Collections of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research* traces the organization's role in documenting key moments in modern Jewish history and culture through its 100 years of collecting.

WED
NOV
05

1:00pm ET

Crisis, War, and the Holocaust in Lithuania

BOOK TALK | ON ZOOM

Saulius Sužiedėlis discusses his new book, the first scholarly English-language study of Lithuania during World War II, which utilizes previously inaccessible archives and academic works, in a conversation led by Jonathan Brent.

MON
NOV
10

7:00pm ET

Voices of Jewish Literary Giants: Hayim Nahman Bialik and Philip Roth

BOOK TALK | IN PERSON & ON ZOOM

Steven J. Zipperstein, author of *Philip Roth: Stung by Life*, and Peter Cole, translator of Hayim Nahman Bialik's *On the Slaughter*, explore their newly published books.

TUE
NOV
11

7:00pm ET

YIVO Centennial Celebration

PANEL DISCUSSION | IN PERSON & ON ZOOM



Join YIVO for a Yiddish evening celebrating our 100th anniversary, featuring Samuel Kassow, Cecile Kuznitz, Zalmen Mlotek, David Roskies, and others. *This program will take place in Yiddish.*

TUE
NOV
18

7:30pm ET

100 Objects from the Collections of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research

BOOK TALK | IN PERSON AT 92NY & LIVESTREAMED

PRESENTED BY 92NY BRONFMAN CENTER FOR JEWISH LIFE; CO-SPONSORED BY YIVO



Stefanie Halpern, Eddy Portnoy, and Jonathan Brent discuss YIVO's latest publication, a gorgeously illustrated coffee table book that highlights unique manuscripts, photographs, objects, and other ephemera from YIVO's collections.

THU
NOV
20

7:30pm ET

The Dave Tarras Legacy

CONCERT | IN PERSON & ON ZOOM

PRESENTED BY YIVO, THE CENTER FOR TRADITIONAL MUSIC AND DANCE, YIDDISH NEW YORK, AND THE SOHEM ALEICHEM CULTURAL CENTER

Enjoy a special concert recognizing Dave Tarras' legacy and its impact on American klezmer music, featuring three of the contemporary Yiddish music scene's leading performers, Andy Statman, Dan Blacksberg, and Pete Rushefsky.

Unable to attend our programs?
Watch past events at: yivo.org/video

NYC Cultural Affairs

These programs are supported, in part, by public funds from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs, in partnership with the City Council.

MON
NOV
24

1:00pm ET

Jewish Religious Life in Lithuania in the 18th-20th Centuries

PANEL DISCUSSION | ON ZOOM

Shaul Stampfer, Lara Lempert, Tzipora Weinberg, and Daniel Reiser, in a discussion led by Andrew Silow-Carroll, reflect on their new volume, which addresses religious life of the Lithuanian Jewish community over time.

MON
DEC
01

1:00pm ET

Vladka Meed's *On Both Sides of the Wall*

BOOK TALK | ON ZOOM

CO-SPONSORED BY THE GROSS FAMILY CENTER FOR THE
STUDY OF ANTISEMITISM AND THE HOLOCAUST

In a conversation led by Samuel Kassow, Steven D. Meed discusses his new translation of Vladka Meed's memoir, which details how she served in the Warsaw ghetto's Jewish underground by passing as a Christian outside its walls.

TUE
DEC
02

7:00pm ET

Yiddish Voices: A Translation Series by YIVO and Bloomsbury

PANEL DISCUSSION | IN PERSON & ON ZOOM

SUPPORTED BY THE FAMILY OF HARRIET YASSKY

Elissa Bemporad, Mikhl Yashinsky, and Glenn Dynner explore two new translations from YIVO's *Yiddish Voices* series, *The Destruction of Dubova* by Rokhl Faygnberg and *The Mother of Yiddish Theatre* by Ester-Rokhl Kaminska.

MON
DEC
08

1:00pm ET

Sugihara's List

BOOK TALK | ON ZOOM

Zofia Hartman, in conversation with Agnieszka Legutko, discusses how consul of the Empire of Japan in Kaunas, Lithuania, Chiune Sugihara, saved several thousand Jews during the Holocaust by issuing transit visas.

THU
DEC
11

1:00pm ET

Jewish Songs and Dances for Piano: Juliusz Wolfsohn's *Paraphrasen*

SIDNEY KRUM YOUNG ARTISTS CONCERT SERIES
PREMIERING ON YOUTUBE

Ryan MacEvoy McCullough performs Juliusz Wolfsohn's *Paraphrasen*, a collection of 12 virtuosic piano fantasies based on Yiddish folksongs.

WED
DEC
17

7:00pm ET

A Very Jewish Christmas: Jesus in Modern Jewish Literature

LECTURE | IN PERSON & ON ZOOM

For YIVO's annual December Dilemma-themed event, Neta Stahl will discuss how Jewish writers portrayed Jesus during periods of significant transformations in Jewish life. A kosher Chinese food dinner will follow the presentation.

SUN
DEC
21

3:00pm ET

Hanukkah Concert

CONCERT | IN PERSON

PRODUCED BY THE AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR JEWISH MUSIC

The annual Hanukkah concert celebrates this joyous holiday with songs and stories that charm and delight audiences.



The Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language



As part of our ongoing Centennial celebration and annual *Nusakh Vilne* memorial event, YIVO presents the world premiere of *The Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language*, a new chamber opera with music by Pulitzer Prize finalist Alex Weiser and libretto by Ben Kaplan. Produced in collaboration and with generous support from American Opera Projects, the League for Yiddish, the American Society for Jewish Music, and the Consulate General of the Republic of Lithuania in New York, the opera dramatizes the unfinished efforts of Yiddish linguist Yudel Mark to compile a comprehensive Yiddish dictionary in the aftermath of the Holocaust.

At the opera's center are two towering historical figures of 20th-century Yiddish scholarship: Mark, whose dream of a complete Yiddish dictionary remained unfinished, and Max Weinreich, co-founder of YIVO and a fellow architect of modern Yiddish studies. As Mark struggles to complete his monumental project, he is visited by three otherworldly "alefs"—divine emanations of the Yiddish language—who urge him to resurrect a culture nearly lost. Real-life personalities and imagined mystical forces converge in a moving and often humorous reflection on language, loss, and cultural persistence.

Critics have praised the opera's bold vision following



Chamber Opera World Premiere During YIVO's Centennial

previous workshop presentations. Writing for *In geveb*, Ofer Dynes described it as “an ambitious, larger-than-life spectacle ... Kaplan and Weiser excel at capturing the paradoxical nature of postwar Yiddishism, which was simultaneously petty and visionary, cosmopolitan and parochial, messianic, but also highly pragmatic, lachrymose and uplifting.” *The Forward* reported that the opera’s portrayal of the passionate debates and emotional stakes surrounding postwar Yiddish culture was thoroughly enjoyable and “just exceptional.”

Directed by Rebecca Miller Kratzer, the 50-minute opera features a cast of five singers—tenor Jason Weisinger, baritone Gideon Dabi, and mezzo-sopranos Kristin Gornstein, Kate Maroney, and Kelly Guerra—and an ensemble of clarinet, string quintet, and piano conducted by David Bloom.

YIVO is grateful to the many donors who enable us to continue offering our programming free of charge. As we mark our centennial, we invite you to consider supporting this world premiere production. Your support will be acknowledged in the program booklet, and all gifts \$1,000 and up will appear on YIVO's Centennial Honor Roll in perpetuity. Donations can be made at yivo.convio.net/GreatDictionary.

Spring 2025 Program Highlights

Chaim Grade's *Sons and Daughters*

The first of two events presented by the 92NY Bronfman Center for Jewish Life celebrated *Sons and Daughters*, Chaim Grade's final, previously untranslated novel. The talk featured translator Rose Waldman, literary critic Adam Kirsch, scholar Justin Cammy, and the novel's editor, Todd Portnowitz, in a conversation moderated by 92NY's Rabbi David Ingber. The novel brims with humanity and affection for a world, once full of life, that the Holocaust would soon eradicate. Its publication is the culmination of 13 years of painstaking work by YIVO archivists.

Carnegie Hall's *Nuestros sonidos (Our Sounds)* Festival

YIVO presented two programs for Carnegie Hall's *Nuestros sonidos* festival—a vibrant celebration of Latin culture in the United States, including Caribbean influences. *Yiddish Tangos and Klezmer Mambos* brought together Ronald Robboy, Sonia Gollance, and Josh Kun to discuss Latin music's influence on Yiddish-speaking communities in the United States. *Falafel, Freilach and Frijoles: From Mambo to Borscht* showcased Arturo O'Farrill and his Afro Latin Jazz Ensemble performing Jewish and Yiddish classics in Afro Latin big band versions and Latin classics in klezmer arrangements.

YIVO in America

YIVO's two-day Centennial conference, *YIVO in America*, reflected on the organization's transformation since relocating to New York in 1940. The program explored how YIVO's founding vision evolved in the American context following the destruction of its original Vilna home during the Holocaust. Despite this devastation, YIVO pioneered new fields such as Holocaust studies, preserved and taught Yiddish, and shaped the landscape of Jewish scholarship. The conference featured leading scholars and distinguished participants—including Jonathan Brent, Leyzer Burko, Deborah Dash Moore, Hasia Diner, Eric Goldstein, Itzik Gottesman, Cecile Kuznitz, Rebecca Margolis, Anita Norich, Samuel Norich, Alyssa Quint, Naomi Seidman, Mark Smith, Kalman Weiser, and YIVO staff, who examined YIVO's postwar legacy and the future of Jewish studies.

PROGRAMS BY THE NUMBERS:
SPRING 2025



38 public programs

12.9K+ registrations

266.9K+ YouTube views

Learning and Media Center



YIVO Learning and Media Center Ribbon-Cutting Ceremony

 In the beginning of summer 2025, YIVO hosted a special gathering to celebrate the grand opening of its new Learning and Media Center. This evening was the culmination of over two years of work from YIVO's staff. The YIVO Learning and Media Center (YLMC) began its pilot phase in May of 2023 with its first visit from The Frisch School; from that date, the YLMC hosted visiting groups from high schools, universities, and synagogues and crafted lessons that drew from YIVO's vast archival holdings.

YIVO's new learning lab and its construction have been in process since early 2023, and during that time, YIVO worked with several firms to ensure that the YLMC would give visitors the special feeling of visiting YIVO's archival stacks. Representatives from Beyer, Blinder, and Belle Architects, Pure + Applied, and RoundSquare Builders attended the ribbon cutting ceremony along with educators who had taken part in the pilot phase, and friends and staff of YIVO. Executive Director & CEO Jonathan Brent and YIVO Board Chair Ruth Levine made remarks at the beginning

of the evening, followed by YLMC Director Alex Weiser. Following these remarks, Alex Weiser, Director of Collections Stefanie Halpern, and YLMC Educator Susannah Trubman demonstrated features and activities that visiting groups will enjoy in the new YIVO space. First Deputy Mayor Randy Mastro was given a special tour during the ribbon-cutting ceremony and toasted to the YLMC's future.

The new YLMC has a dedicated classroom space, an audio/visual station, and a poster-making corner. The space features archival objects from YIVO's collections, a cozy library nook with Yiddish and English books, and a rotating exhibition space that is currently hosting *The Door Slams Shut: Jews and Immigration in the Face of American Reaction*.

The YLMC is currently open by appointment for visiting groups. Are you interested in bringing a class to visit the YIVO Learning and Media Center? Contact Susannah Trubman at strubman@yivo.org to schedule your visit today!



YLMC BY THE NUMBERS: SPRING 2025

10 lessons
200+ students and visitors
 from: Columbia
 University, New York
 University, The Dalton
 School, Hunter College,
 and The Bronfman
 Fellowship



People of a Thousand Towns: An Interactive Map

The Learning and Media Center has many new activities and lessons that we are excited to share. Among those we are most proud of is our new People of a Thousand Towns interactive map. On a 75-inch touch-screen display, visitors can explore a map populated by small green dots. Each small green dot represents a town or city in our collection, and upon selecting one of these dots the visitor can view up to nine photos from this locale. Each photo is accompanied by a caption, for example: "A group of yeshiva students" or "A gathering of the Bundist youth group *Tsukunft*." The collection shows the insides of traditional wooden synagogues, studio portraits of families, and views of towns completely unrecognizable from their present day. The map is currently a work in progress; beginning with the area of and surrounding Poland, there are plans to expand the map with towns and images in other areas of Eastern Europe, as we continue to digitize our photographic collections.





YIVO's Centennial Kickoff at the Neue Galerie



On February 27, we had the opportunity to kick off YIVO's centennial at our former home on Fifth Avenue and 86th Street. Now the Neue Galerie, the building was YIVO's home for 40 years. Many of us have fond memories of the building—its beauty and its endearing quirks. Guests were treated to a performance by Eleanor Reissa and YIVO's own Lorin Sklamberg.

Mayor Eric Adams Proclaims March 24, 2025, "YIVO Institute for Jewish Research Day"



In honor of YIVO's centennial, New York City Mayor Eric Adams presented YIVO with a proclamation declaring March 24, 2025, "YIVO Institute for Jewish Research Day." The proclamation recognizes YIVO's vital

role in telling the story of the Jewish people: *"what they have cherished and endured, and how they have persevered."* The proclamation further states that, *"For a century, YIVO has been that most precious and priceless resource that enables us to learn from yesterday so that we can hope for tomorrow."*



- 1** Eleanor Reissa and Lorin Sklamberg perform at the Neue Galerie for YIVO's Centennial Kickoff.
- 2** The YIVO Board of Directors and Jonathan Brent, Executive Director & CEO, at the Centennial Kickoff.
- 3** Irene Pletka, vice chair of the YIVO Board, speaks at the Centennial Kickoff.

From the YIVO Collections



RECENT ACCESSION

The Collection of Paula Eisenstein-Baker

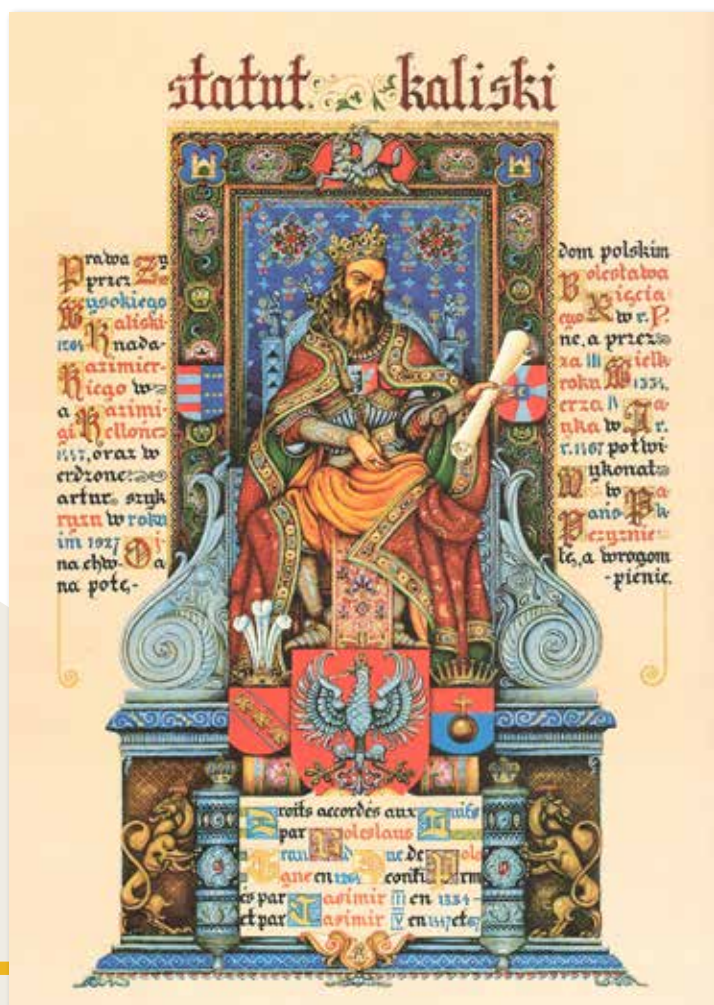
Paula Eisenstein-Baker (1939–2024) was a cellist and musicologist who became the leading expert on composer Leo Zeitlin. Zeitlin, who had been active in the Society for Jewish Folk Music in St. Petersburg in the early part of the 20th century, had received little attention from contemporary scholars until Eisenstein-Baker's research began in the late 1980s. After identifying him as the composer of the well-known composition "Eli Zion"—it had been misattributed to a violinist with almost the same name—Eisenstein-Baker devoted herself to the composer and his work, meticulously collecting his compositions, arrangements, and biographical material. She wrote about Zeitlin and his music in musicology and Jewish journals, including *YIVO Annual*, co-edited critical editions of his compositions, arranged for performances of them, and performed his works herself. Eisenstein-Baker had a long relationship with YIVO, and her collection will be invaluable to future researchers of Jewish music.

LIBRARY HIGHLIGHT

The First Privilege of Polish Jews— Le Statut de Kalisz

Did you know that on August 16, 1264, Duke Bolesław the Pious issued a statute in Kalisz for Jews living in the greater Poland region under his rule? The statute contained issues of authority, principles on who could conduct credit and trade, and penalties for desecrating a Jewish cemetery or a shul. The statute also detailed relations with the Christian population and the provisions concerning blood libel accusations. The statute of Kalisz became a symbol of the safe life of Jews in Poland.

While the original statute was not preserved, artist Arthur Szyk from Łódź recreated it in 1928. The historical background of Szyk's recreation was published in an English and Polish bilingual edition in 2012, along with the artwork itself. The book also has individual prints of the statute, with each one intricately detailed in its depiction of each section of it.





A group from the Trade Union of Needle-workers at a secret conference in the Ruzel Forest. Vilna, 1906. YIVO Archives.

THE JEWISH LABOR AND POLITICAL ARCHIVES



FEATURED ARTIFACT

A Book of Linocuts from the Vladek Home

A house in the mountains. A *shabes* table. A ship. A shtetl. A forest. The Wandering Jew.

These are some of the subjects of a book of linocuts made in 1949 by children living in the Vladek Home in Brunoy, France. The book was given as a gift to Menukha and Gershon Zaltzman, Bundists and Jewish educators who organized and managed the Vladek Home orphanage as part of their work for the Jewish Labor Committee.

Founded just after the war and named in honor of labor leader and organizer of the Jewish Labor Committee, Baruch Charney Vladek, the Vladek Home supported Jewish children ages six to twelve. In addition to the psychological and physical rehabilitation of these children, the Vladek Home tried to restore a sense of normalcy to their daily lives. The children adhered to a schedule that included ample time for lessons, reading, play, and art activities. To create a sense of home and of family, special events were held for each holiday, and a celebration took place in honor of the birthdays of each child. A weekly talent show, held every *shabes*, allowed the children the opportunity to showcase their hidden abilities. Through the encouragement of the Zaltzmans, who tried to foster an environment where every child felt they had a place within the Vladek Home community, even the most timid children were able to express their creativity.





Two Revolutionary Jews: Leon Trotsky and Chaim Zhitlowsky

YIVO launched a new, ongoing lecture series inspired by its landmark digitization of the Jewish Labor and Political Archives. The first program in the series, *Two Revolutionary Jews: Leon Trotsky and Chaim Zhitlowsky*, featured a talk by historian Tony Michels. Michels examined how these two influential thinkers offered sharply contrasting political visions at the turn of the 20th century—Zhitlowsky advocating a fusion of socialism and Yiddish nationalism, and Trotsky championing a rigid internationalism that rejected Jewish national identity. Many Jews, however, embraced both as leaders whose ideas offered paths toward Jewish national liberation and working-class revolution, a Jewish homeland, as well as a flourishing life in the diaspora.

JLPA BY THE NUMBERS: TO DATE



Approximately
3.5 million
pages in the collection

74% conserved
43% processed
20% digitized and
available online

ABOUT THE PROJECT

Consisting of nearly 200 collections encompassing 3.5 million pages of archival documents, the Jewish Labor and Political Archives (JLPA) forms the world's most comprehensive body of material pertaining to Jewish social and political activism in Europe and the United States. Spanning the years 1870 to 1992, the JLPA tells the story of Jews' involvement in the European political and revolutionary movements of the 20th century and resistance to the Holocaust, as well as their impact on the American labor movement and the fight for fair wages and workers' rights. YIVO is now in the midst of an eight-year project to digitize these unparalleled materials and make them available for free access online.

As of August 4, 2025, the JLPA project has raised over \$6 million toward its \$8.5 million goal. **With the recent termination of Federal funding, please consider supporting the digitization of this important project to ensure we can continue to make this historic archival resource available to a global audience.** Your commitment will be matched by a challenge grant from an anonymous foundation, amplifying your support!

We are profoundly indebted to Irene Pletka for her generous lead support of this extraordinary collection.

For more information and naming opportunities, please contact Melissa S. Cohen at **212.294.6156** or via email at **mcohen@yivo.org**.

JLPA PROJECT SUPPORTERS

\$1,000,000+ Builder

Anonymous
Ruth and David Levine
Irene Pletka

\$500,000+ Partner

\$100,000+ Benefactor

Conference on Jewish Material Claims Against Germany,
The German Federal Ministry of Finance, and the Foundation
Remembrance, Responsibility and Future
Institute of Museum and Library Services: Save America's Treasures (IMLS)
National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH)
National Historical Publications and Records Commission (NHPRC)

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\$1,000+ Friend

Ellen Odoner and Edward Kerson

As of AUGUST 4, 2025

Every effort has been made to ensure the accuracy of this list. We apologize for any errors or omissions. Please report any corrections to mcohen@yivo.org.



Funded by:



on the basis of a decision
of the Bundestag

With Assistance from the Conference on
Jewish Material Claims Against Germany
Supported by the German Federal Ministry of
Finance and the Foundation Remembrance,
Responsibility and Future



NATIONAL
ENDOWMENT
FOR THE
HUMANITIES

The National Endowment for the
Humanities: Democracy demands wisdom.



New York Congressman Dan Goldman Visits YIVO



On May 27, Congressman Dan Goldman, who represents New York's 10th Congressional District—home to YIVO—visited YIVO as part of

its Centennial celebrations. During his visit, Congressman Goldman explored YIVO's archival collections and toured the YIVO Learning and Media Center, an innovative educational space where students and the public can engage directly with primary source materials from YIVO's vast archival collections. In honor of YIVO's centennial, Congressman Goldman presented YIVO with a Congressional Resolution recognizing YIVO's significant role in American history and its continued importance to Jewish scholarship, Holocaust remembrance, and cultural preservation, which, the resolution stated, *"have profoundly enriched the intellectual and cultural fabric of the United States and the world."*



Riverdale Temple Celebrates YIVO's Centennial



The Riverdale Temple has long held a YIVO Jewish Culture Series which draws its presenters from

the extensive network of scholars affiliated with the YIVO. Open to a broad public, these events are curated and produced by the indefatigable Yiddish cultural activist Yvette Marrin. (Marrin is the daughter of the Yiddish poet, Malka Lee, whose archival collection resides at YIVO in RG 367). To celebrate YIVO's centennial year, Marrin coordinated a panel on the afternoon of June 8 featuring YIVO's Jonathan Brent, Stefanie Halpern, Alex Weiser, and Lorin Sklamberg. Brent, Halpern, and Weiser discussed YIVO's history and its current activities and initiatives. Sklamberg performed songs that are documented in YIVO's archives and discussed the collections that contain them. The celebration was complete with a generous reception including a birthday cake labeled "Celebrating 100 Years of YIVO!"



4 Stefanie Halpern, Director of Collections, shows Congressman Dan Goldman materials from the YIVO Archives during his tour of the YIVO Learning and Media Center.

5 Stefanie Halpern, Jonathan Brent, Alex Weiser, and Lorin Sklamberg at Riverdale Temple's celebration of YIVO.

**Marlene Meyerson
JCC Tikkun
Celebrates YIVO's
Centennial**



The Paul Feig z"l Tikkun Leil Shavuot festival at the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan hosts thousands of visitors each year for a free,

all-night marathon of study, film, music, dance, food, and conversation in celebration of Shavuot. The 2025 festival took place on June 1, 9pm to 5am and featured presentations celebrating YIVO's centennial. Stefanie Halpern, the Director of YIVO's collections, gave a powerpoint "show-and-tell" sharing rare and striking items from YIVO's vast collection, drawing from YIVO's centennial coffee table book, *100 Objects from the Collections of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research*. Alex Weiser, YIVO's Director of Public Programs, led a concert-lecture featuring music around the theme of "Yiddish Songs of New York" with performances by Kristin Gornstein and Paul Kerekes.

**YIVO Participates
in a Teacher
Training Program
in Lithuania**

On June 12 and 13, YIVO Executive Director & CEO Jonathan Brent and YIVO Chief of Staff Shelly Freeman traveled to Vilnius to lead a teacher training program to teach Lithuanian educators how to use the YIVO Bruce and Francesca Cernia Slovin Online Museum in their classrooms.

The first exhibition, *Beba Epstein: The Extraordinary Life of an Ordinary Girl*, was translated into Lithuanian by the Lithuanian Government in September of last year for use in Lithuanian schools. The second exhibition, *Yitskhok Rudashevski: A Teenager's Account of Life and Death in the Vilna Ghetto*, is scheduled for translation later this year. This training initiative was organized in partnership with the International Commission and generously supported by the Good Will Foundation, the Martynas Mažvydas National Library of Lithuania, and the City of Vilnius. Over 40 teachers from across Lithuania participated in the program that provided them with the tools to teach Lithuanian Jewish history using hundreds of primary source materials from YIVO's archives. By providing Lithuanian students with a deep understanding of Jewish history and the Holocaust through authentic primary sources, the program aspires to nurture future generations of Lithuanians grounded in truth and committed to combating the evils of antisemitism.

**YIVO and Ben-
Gurion University
Announce New
Fellowship in
Jewish Studies**

The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research, in partnership with Ben-Gurion University of the Negev, is delighted to announce the launch of the YIVO - Ben-Gurion University Fellowship in

Jewish Studies. This inaugural fellowship, made possible by the generous support of Elisabeth and Max Gitter, is designed to advance original research in Jewish history, literature, or religious studies, utilizing the unparalleled collections of the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research in New York City. The YIVO Archives and Library house the world's largest collection of Yiddish-language works and a vast array of manuscripts, rare books, and archival materials documenting the history and culture of Central and Eastern European Jewry and the American Jewish immigrant experience. The first fellowship will be awarded in 2025.

**New Board
Member:
Jack Cogen**



Jack Cogen is currently a director of CoreWeave, the AI hyperscaler. From 1994 to 2014, he was a founder and the Chief Executive Officer of Natsource Asset Management LLC, an asset management and advisory firm focused on global environmental markets and related energy products. He also served as Chair of the International Emissions Trading Association (IETA) from 2008

to 2011 and continues to support the organization as a Fellow. Additionally, he was a director of Hudson Ridge Asset Management LLC, a natural gas hedge fund, from 2013 to 2018.

Mr. Cogen earned a B.A. from Rutgers University, as well as an M.S. in Mathematics and an M.B.A. from New York University. He has served on the boards of Temple Shaaray Tefila of New York (former treasurer), the Gateway School of New York (former chair), the Energy Brokers Association (former treasurer), The Trevor Day School, and the Purnell School. He currently serves on the Oversight Committee of the United Jewish Appeal of New York.

**Emil Kleinhaus
Returns to the
YIVO Board
of Directors**



Emil Kleinhaus is a partner at the law firm of Wachtell, Lipton, Rosen & Katz. He was previously a member of the YIVO board of trustees from 2013 through 2022. He has been involved as a board member and otherwise in various projects at YIVO, including the acquisition of the Chaim Grade archive. He lives on the Upper East Side of Manhattan with his wife and two children.

Riverdale Temple's cake celebrating our centennial (see PAGE 17).

Happy
100th

CELEBRATING
100 YEARS
OF
YIVO !



"They were writing for us"

YIVO Study Tour of Lithuania and Poland, June 16-29, 2025

by JOSEPH REIMER

In June of this year, my wife Gail and I participated in the YIVO study tour of Lithuania and Poland. Gail had been to Poland, but I had never been or had any extended contact with YIVO. I had little idea of what to expect. I did my advanced reading, and yet the experience was surprising, stimulating, and exhausting.

The first surprise was our group. We were a large group of 32 participants, mostly from the States, but with a strong contingent from Melbourne, Australia. The majority of us were older, but several brought their grown children, so we had two generations present. While the Australians were mostly the children of survivors, the Americans were mostly not. Everyone was intensely interested, engaged, and considerate of one another.

The second surprise was Professor Sam Kassow. We knew in advance that Sam would be our teacher, but who knew what that would mean? Sam has a vast amount of knowledge of this history at the ready and can explain this history in such clear terms that we could all glimpse the complexity of our ancestors' experiences in these dark lands. In addition, Sam tells a great story and sings Yiddish songs. He was such a hit that one member of the group filmed his presentations, so we can have them for our on-going reference.

The third surprise was Irene Pletka, the vice chair of the YIVO board of directors and curator of YIVO's Study Tours, who led this rigorous trip and seamlessly became part of the group. Irene's generosity was felt most keenly at the end of the trip where she arranged for us to be VIP guests at the klezmer concerts that were part of the Jewish cultural festival taking place in Kraków.

The trip was fundamentally from Vilna to Warsaw to Kraków with varied stops at different locations including Treblinka and Auschwitz-Birkenau. It was not for the faint of heart. The pace and flow of information was non-stop, rarely leaving any downtime. There were also moments of great satisfaction throughout the trip. Individual participants were able to locate the graves of loved ones, connect with their family roots, and share stories of where their people came from. Conversation among group members was open, supportive, and enlightening. Friendships developed.

The most moving moment for me came when we were in Warsaw at the Jewish Historical Institute. Sam was guiding us through an exhibit and sharing the riveting story of Emanuel Ringelblum and the Oyneg Shabes group who risked their lives in the ghetto to write, gather, and hide an elaborate record of the experience of Jews in those terrifying times. When Sam concluded, I asked, "Who were they writing for?" Without hesitation, Sam responded, "They were writing for us." At that moment I realized, "We are here to witness what they lived through." Their deep wish was for us to know. We have come all this way to let them know, "We hear you, and it deeply matters."

The study tour of Lithuania and Poland includes a visit to this monument of Dr. Tsemakh Szabad—physician, public figure, and one of YIVO's founders—on Mėsinij Street in Vilnius.



The Differences in the Familiar

by ALEKSANDRA SZCZEPAN, Summer Program '25
2025 Centennial Scholar

I come from a place where Yiddish used to be commonly spoken and heard on the streets, namely the historic region of Galicia, from a place that used to be a *shtetl*. This influenced my experience in the Summer Program in multiple ways. Firstly, I had a chance to learn how close Yiddish is to my native *loshn*, Polish, and how these two languages grew together and developed a shared imagination, sensitivity and sense of humor. Spotting the differences in the familiar was therefore for me one of the most important lessons of the program and enjoying glimmers of recognition – one of its biggest joys.

Thanks to the Program, I was able to immerse myself in a living environment of spoken Yiddish, a Yiddish not so much of documents but of instant reactions and shared jokes, which was an eye-opening experience. Secondly, coming from a different geography made me particularly curious about the space and the Summer Program greatly nourished this interest. I enjoyed learning about and walking through Jewish and Yiddish New York from the past and present during the organized trips to the Lower East Side, CYCO Yiddish Bookstore, or Yiddish theatre, and discovering often invisible layers of the city's topography. I hope that in the future I will be able to be a guide for colleagues I met in the Program who want to visit this other geography that I know by heart, the Eastern European one. Finally, as a researcher and literary scholar, I particularly appreciated the Summer Program's focus on introducing the students to the abundance of Yiddish literature from various periods and places, as well as the opportunity to meet the truly excellent scholars and pedagogues who make up the Program's team. *A sheynem dank!*



A Six-Week Life in Yiddish

by NOBUTO SATO, Summer Program '17, '19, '20, '25
2025 Centennial Scholar

I participated in YIVO's Summer Program for the fourth time to improve my skills in research, as I plan to complete a Ph.D. soon. After spending an intensive and rewarding six weeks, I once again realized how precious it was to have the opportunity to study Yiddish at YIVO.

Coming from a non-Jewish background, it is not easy for me to experience Yiddish as a living language. At YIVO, however, I could learn Yiddish in an immersive environment in which students from diverse backgrounds read, write, hear, speak (and even sing!) in Yiddish.

Adi Mahalel's Literature course helped me familiarize myself with texts from different time periods, places, genres, and in different orthographies. Every session of Dovid Braun's Language course was eye-opening because of his deep knowledge about the Yiddish language's history, geographical variations, and etymological relations with other languages. It was a great honor to work on conversational skills in *Shmues* with Boris Sandler, who encouraged each of us to be a creative storyteller. Afternoon seminars taught by experts also helped me deepen my knowledge of Yiddish literature.

Participating in the Program in person, I could live a life in Yiddish for six weeks. It was not only attending classes and working on assignments, but also waking up every morning to say *gut-morn* to my roommate, discussing weekend plans with other students at coffee breaks, coming across curious Hebrew letters on a signboard in the streets, accidentally talking to a waiter in Yiddish at a restaurant, and having a dream in Yiddish . . .

I have just finished the Program, but I am already hoping to return to YIVO. I recommend it to anyone interested in experiencing a life in Yiddish.

PROGRAM IN YIDDISH LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, AND CULTURE



74 students
12 countries
17 U.S. states

Students, faculty, and staff attend the סיום (siem [graduation]) for the 2025 YIVO-Bard Uriel Weinreich Summer Program in Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture, in person at YIVO and on Zoom. Photos by Melanie Einzig.

מזל טוב!
Congratulations to the class of 2025!

YIVO Receives \$54,000 Donation for 2025 Yiddish Summer Program Centennial Scholarships



Earlier this year, the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research received \$54,000 from The Leona Zweig Rosenberg Trust to support summer Yiddish study at the 2025 YIVO-Bard Uriel

Weinreich Summer Program in Yiddish Language, Literature, and Culture. This donation enabled YIVO to award Centennial Scholarships to a select number of students attending this year's summer program. The scholarships covered a combination of tuition, travel, housing, and living expenses in summer 2025. The Centennial Scholarships were offered in celebration of YIVO's 100th anniversary, marking 100 years of Yiddish scholarship and the perpetuation of Jewish culture around the world.



Thanks to [the Centennial Scholarship], I could focus fully on the program. And what an extraordinary experience it has been! At YIVO, I didn't just learn grammar and vocabulary—I entered a community. I began to understand Yiddish not as an abstract subject, but as a living language, one that carries centuries of humor, sorrow, resilience, and creativity.

— ANNA MATVEEVA,
Summer Program '25
2025 Centennial Scholar

EDUCATION BY THE NUMBERS:
SPRING 2025



286 students
14 countries
30 U.S. states

Fall Classes

BEGINNER YIDDISH

12 weeks
12 total sessions
1.5 hours each

BEGINNER I YIDDISH

(Sunday Morning)

Sep. 21 – Dec. 7 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET
Instructor: Alona Bach

(Sunday Afternoon)

Sep. 21 – Dec. 7 | 3:00pm-4:30pm ET
Instructor: Rose Mintzer-Sweeney

BEGINNER II YIDDISH

(Sunday) Sep. 14 – Nov. 30 | 3:00pm-4:30pm ET
Instructor: Nina Warnke

(Monday In-person in NYC)

Sep. 8 – Dec. 15 | 6:30pm-8:00pm ET
Instructor: Nachum Lerner

(Monday)

Sep. 8 – Dec. 15 | 6:30pm-8:00pm ET
Instructor: Perl Teitelbaum

(Thursday)

Sep. 11 – Dec. 11 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET
Instructor: Lucas Fiszman

BEGINNER III YIDDISH

(Monday) Sep. 15 – Dec. 8 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET
Instructor: Malena Chinski

(Tuesday In-person in NYC)

Sep. 9 – Dec. 16 | 6:00pm-7:30pm ET
Instructor: Nachum Lerner

(Thursday) Sep. 18 – Dec. 18 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET
Instructor: Tal Hever-Chybowski

BEGINNER IV YIDDISH

(Sunday) Sep. 14 – Nov. 30 | 10:30am-12:00pm ET
Instructor: Karolina Szymaniak

MINI-COURSE

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE JEWISH HISTORICAL INSTITUTE IN WARSAW

4 weeks | 4 total sessions | 1 hour each
FREE

YIVO and the Oyneg Shabes Archive: A Centennial Reflection

Oct. 19, Oct. 26, Nov. 2, Nov. 9 | 11:00am-12:00pm ET

Instructors: Maria Ferenc Piotrowska, Eleonora Bergman, Agnieszka Żótkiewska, Marek Tuszewicki

This fall we are offering 26 courses, all held remotely on Zoom unless otherwise noted.
Join us and students from around the world! Space is limited and classes fill up quickly, so be sure to register today.

To learn more and register, visit yivo.org/classes.

Questions? Visit yivo.org/class-faq to help determine which class is right for you!

INTERMEDIATE YIDDISH

*12 weeks
12 total sessions
1.5 hours each*

INTERMEDIATE I YIDDISH

(Thursday) Sep. 11 – Dec. 11 | 6:00pm-7:30pm ET
Instructor: Nina Warnke

INTERMEDIATE II YIDDISH

(Thursday) Sep. 11 – Dec. 11 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET
Instructor: Malena Chinski

INTERMEDIATE III YIDDISH

(Sunday) Sep. 14 – Nov. 30 | 10:00am-11:30am ET
Instructor: Sonia Dratwa-Pinkusowitz

INTERMEDIATE IV YIDDISH

(Monday) Sep. 8 – Nov. 24 | 1:30pm-3:00pm ET
Instructor: Nina Warnke

(Tuesday) Sep. 9 – Dec. 16 | 3:00pm-4:30pm ET
Instructor: Perl Teitelbaum

ADVANCED YIDDISH

*12 weeks
12 total sessions
1.5 hours each*

* Unless otherwise noted

ADVANCED I YIDDISH

(Monday) Sep. 8 – Dec. 15 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET
Instructor: Vera Szabó

(Thursday)
Sep. 18 – Dec. 18 | 3:00pm-4:30pm ET
Instructor: Lucas Fisman

ADVANCED II YIDDISH

(Monday) Sep. 8 – Nov. 24 | 11:00am-12:30pm ET
Instructor: Karolina Szymaniak

ADVANCED III YIDDISH

(Sunday Afternoon)
Sep. 14 – Nov. 30 | 2:00pm-3:30pm ET
Instructor: Sonia Dratwa-Pinkusowitz

(Sunday Evening)
Sep. 14 – Nov. 30 | 6:00pm-7:30pm ET
Instructor: Perl Teitelbaum

ADVANCED TOPICS IN YIDDISH LITERATURE & GRAMMAR

Autobiographical Writing in Yiddish
Sep. 9 – Dec. 16 | 6:00pm-7:30pm ET
Instructor: Sheva Zucker
* 12 weeks, 24 total sessions

"Yiddish" as a Theme in Yiddish Literature

Sep. 21 – Dec. 7 | 12:00pm-1:30pm ET
Instructor: Sonia Dratwa-Pinkusowitz

SEMINARS & ELECTIVES (IN YIDDISH)

*10 weeks
10 total sessions
1.5 hours each*

Readings in Yiddish Prose

Sep. 10 – Dec. 10 | 9:30am-11:00am ET
Instructor: Vera Szabó

The Prose Poems of Avrom Sutzkever

Sep. 14 – Nov. 16 | 12:00pm-1:30pm ET
Instructor: Shane Baker

ALEFBEYS WORKSHOP

*2 weeks
4 total sessions
1.5 hours each*

Aug. 24, Aug. 28, Aug. 31, Sep. 4
6:30pm-8:00pm ET
Instructor: Moishele Alfonso



YIVO's Shine Online Educational Series

YIVO's Shine Online courses are **free** and available to take **at your own pace**.

Learn about Jewish history and culture with experts in the field and explore YIVO's unique archival collections.

5 classes

30K+ students registered

Students from **76 countries** and **all 50 states**

YIVO.ORG/SHINE

GET STARTED TODAY!

100 YEARS AT YIVO און יידן



Exhibitions



In honor of its centennial, YIVO presents three landmark exhibitions—collectively titled *YIVO at 100*—that illuminate the extraordinary stories preserved in its world-renowned collections. These exhibitions highlight the passion, courage, and dedication that built the world's foremost archive of Eastern European Jewish life.

Bloomberg Connects – A Free Digital Museum Guide

Explore YIVO's exhibitions with our digital guide on Bloomberg Connects, the free arts and culture app. Dive deeper into our on-site exhibitions, learn more about YIVO and its 100 years of history, and find out more about how to take advantage of all that YIVO has to offer.



Scan the QR code to view in your browser or download the free app.

► yivo.org/bloombergconnects

ON DISPLAY IN *HAIL TO THE ZAMLERS!*:
Red shoes worn by Mae Simon, a
popular star of the Yiddish stage and
screen. New York, ca. 1925.
YIVO Archives.





On view through December 31, 2025

Hail to the Zamlers! YIVO's Collections at 100

Built by the people, for the people, YIVO's remarkable archive stands as a testament to generations of volunteers, scholars, and everyday Jews who worked to preserve the 1,000-year-old culture of Ashkenazi Jewry. This expansive exhibition honors the *zamlers* (Yiddish for collectors) who gathered the books, documents, art, and ephemera that now form YIVO's extraordinary holdings. Featuring over 70 artifacts across six thematic sections, visitors will journey through the evolution of Yiddish literature, the performing and visual arts, immigration, the Jewish labor movement, and the inspiring story of YIVO itself.

The Paper Brigade: Smuggling Jewish Treasures in Nazi-Occupied Vilna

During the Holocaust, a courageous group of Jewish poets and scholars risked everything to preserve their cultural heritage. These forced laborers were conscripted by the Nazis to sort and pack rare Jewish cultural treasures for shipment to Germany. Known as the "Paper Brigade," these men and women smuggled rare books and manuscripts from the YIVO building into the Vilna ghetto—hiding and burying them in hopes they would survive the war. This exhibition showcases the cultural treasures they saved—silent survivors of genocide—and honors the extraordinary resistance of those who chose preserving their culture over survival.

The Strashun Library: Rare Books Rescued from the Ashes of Vilna

Founded in 1892, the Strashun Library was a Jewish public library open to scholars, students, and everyday readers. Built upon the prestigious collection of renowned scholar and bibliophile Rabbi Matisyahu Strashun, the library grew to house over 35,000 volumes and became a beacon of Jewish learning—until its looting by the Nazis during World War II. Some of the books were hidden in the Vilna ghetto, others were seized and shipped to Germany, and fortunately, a significant portion made their way to YIVO in New York.

► See our visitor hours and directions at:
yivo.org/visit

YIVO STORE יוו אגעשעפט



Bring a piece of YIVO home!

Shop items inspired by our
collections, online classes,
and more.

yivo-institute.myshopify.com



In the Media

Here are some of YIVO's media highlights from spring 2025:

The Wall Street Journal

(JULY 3, 2025)

'100 Objects From the Collections of the YIVO Institute' Review: Jewish History in Artifacts

Opera Wire

(JULY 3, 2025)

The Great Dictionary of the Yiddish Language Set for World Premiere at NYC's YIVO Institute

Mishpacha

(JULY 1, 2025)

Living in the Past

PRINT Magazine

(JUNE 30, 2025)

The Daily Heller: 100 Years of Jewish History Through YIVO and Its Artifacts

New York Sun

(JUNE 24, 2025)

In '100 Objects,' YIVO Traces Jewish Diaspora Experience of Building Community From What Was at Hand

The Forward

(JUNE 23, 2025)

100 years collecting Jewish history, 24 million artifacts and only 3 rooms to fit it in

The Washington Post

(JUNE 20, 2025)

The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research — a New York institution dedicated to preserving the history and culture of East European Jewry — is celebrating its 100th anniversary.

The Jewish Chronicle

(JUNE 17, 2025)

The history of the Jews — told through 100 objects

Smithsonian Magazine

(MAY 9, 2025)

These Irreplaceable Yiddish Artifacts Would Have Been Lost to History If They Weren't Evacuated to New York After World War II

The Forward

(APRIL 5, 2025)

Unwieldy, unnerving, and a masterpiece — the last great Yiddish novel has arrived

New York Sun

(APRIL 1, 2025)

The Best Novel of the Year Was Written in Yiddish — Seven Decades Ago

JTA

(MARCH 27, 2025)

How the Yiddish writer Chaim Grade's last novel was rescued from the archives, and wrestled into print

NBC

(MARCH 24, 2025)

Historic Jewish archive celebrates 100th anniversary

CBS

(MARCH 23, 2025)

YIVO Institute Turns 100

The New Yorker

(MARCH 21, 2025)

The Resurrection of a Lost Yiddish Novel

Times of Israel

(MARCH 21, 2025)

Dirty jokes and sacred texts: YIVO marks 100 years of preserving Yiddish culture

New Jersey Jewish News

(MARCH 20, 2025)

'It's a wonderland'

The Atlantic

(MARCH 16, 2025)

The Last Great Yiddish Novel

Jewish News UK

(MARCH 7, 2025)

Yiddish writer's 'lost' novel to be published in English

The New York Times

(FEBRUARY 24, 2025)

A Discovery of Lost Pages Brings to Light a 'Last Great Yiddish Novel'

The Australian Jewish News

(FEBRUARY 13, 2025)

Stark realities of life under Nazi rule

New York Post

(JANUARY 4, 2025)

How New York's YIVO Institute is keeping Yiddish culture alive

► Read these articles and more at: yivo.org/2025

Creating a Legacy and Enriching the Future

Longevity. Individuals who established endowments or included the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research in their estate plans or through life income gifts long ago still sustain our work today. As we celebrate YIVO's Centennial, we invite you to become a member of the **1925 Legacy Society** and create a planned gift that will endow your personal vision for the future, inspiring future generations to continue your generous example. Establishing a will is your way to protect your loved ones, ensure your wishes are honored, and create a legacy for the missions you care about. By choosing to include a gift to YIVO in your will, you'll ensure that we can continue to conserve, preserve, and share the rich history and culture of Eastern European Jewry for years to come.

Participation includes:

- ▶ Invitations to special events
- ▶ Recognition in YIVO's spring newsletter and on our website

If you have already included YIVO in your will, trust, or estate plans, please let us know, so we can add you to the 1925 Legacy Society.

BEQUESTS

Making a bequest—a gift made in your will or living trust—to YIVO will have a deep impact on YIVO for years to come. Bequests can be a specific amount, percentage, or remainder of assets.

Sample language might be stated as follows: *I give and bequeath to the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research _____ % of my total estate. Or, you can state a specific dollar amount.*

We always suggest seeking legal consultation.

CHARITABLE GIFT ANNUITIES

A charitable gift annuity—usually cash or stocks—allows you to support the YIVO's mission while receiving a tax deduction and a fixed flow of income for the rest of your life. Payments depend on age at the time of the donation.

BENEFICIARY DESIGNATIONS

A beneficiary designation allows you to make a substantial gift, often larger than what you could afford during your lifetime. Designate YIVO as the primary or contingent beneficiary for your:

- ▶ IRA Account*
- ▶ Life Insurance
- ▶ 401(k)/403(b)
- ▶ Payable on death (POD) account

*Since YIVO is a tax-exempt organization, there's an added benefit of saving valuable tax dollars.

Supporting YIVO Today*

IRA CHARITABLE ROLLOVER

If you meet the age (70 ½) for a required minimum distribution, you can give up to \$108,000 from your IRA directly to YIVO without paying income taxes on the money.

CASH

By making a cash gift, you'll see your generous gift in action, and when you itemize, you'll receive a federal income tax charitable deduction. Cash gifts can also be given in tribute of a loved one.

STOCK GIFTS

Transferring appreciated shares of stock or mutual funds directly to YIVO may entitle you to a charitable income tax deduction for their full current market value without paying the capital gains tax on appreciation. Contact your financial advisor to kick-start your legacy.

DONOR-ADVISED FUNDS

You can recommend how much and how often funds are granted to YIVO.

* Gifts of \$1,000 and over will be recognized on YIVO's Centennial Honor Roll.

We are here to assist you and your advisors.

Please contact Melissa S. Cohen at **212.294.6156** or **mcohen@yivo.org**.



YIVO Institute for Jewish Research
15 West 16th Street
New York, NY 10011-6301
LOCATED IN THE CENTER FOR JEWISH HISTORY

NEWSLETTER

Fall 2025

ABOUT YIVO

The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research is dedicated to the preservation and study of the history and culture of Eastern European Jewry worldwide. For a century, YIVO has pioneered new forms of Jewish scholarship, research, education, and cultural expression. Our public programs and exhibitions, as well as online and on-site courses, extend our global outreach and enable us to share our vast resources. The YIVO Archives contains more than 24 million original items, and YIVO's Library has over 400,000 volumes—the single largest resource for such study in the world.



Follow us
@YIVOInstitute

CONTACT

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General Inquiries
info@yivo.org

Archival Inquiries
reference@yivo.org
Photo/Film Archives | **photofilm@yivo.org**
Sound Archives | **soundarchives@yivo.org**

Library Inquiries
reference@yivo.org

TRAVEL DIRECTIONS

The YIVO Institute for Jewish Research is located in the Center for Jewish History at 15 West 16th Street between Fifth and Sixth Avenues, New York, NY 10011.

by subway

14 St / Union Sq. **L N Q R W 4 5 6**

14 St + 6 Ave **F L M PATH** 18 St + 7 Ave **1**

14 St + 7 Ave **1 2 3** 14 St + 8 Ave **A C E L**

by bus **M1 M2 M3 M7 M14 M55**

HOURS *[closed on major federal and Jewish holidays]*

Gallery Hours

Sun–Thu 9:30am–7:30pm
Fri 9:30am–3:30pm
Sat **CLOSED**

Reading Room Hours

Mon–Thu 9:30am–4:30pm

Administrative Hours

Mon–Thu 9:00am–5:00pm
Fri 9:00am–4:00pm