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## **2021 Rosh Hashanah & Yom Kippur Service and Event Schedule Announced for Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan and JCC Harlem**

**New York, NY** (August 25, 2021) – The Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan announced today the schedule for the 2021/5782 High Holidays services and programming, beginning now through September 16. This year’s Jewish High Holidays will be celebrated on the Upper West Side at MMJCCM and at JCC Harlem, with a mix of in-person and virtual events.

“It’s hard to believe that we are facing another High Holiday season while still dealing with COVID-19 and its repercussions,” shares Director of Jewish Journeys, **Rabbi Lori Forman-Jacobi**. “The past eighteen months have shown who we are and the character traits we rely on in challenging times. No matter how we celebrate this year, we will use this time to review the past and plan for a renewed future.”

In addition to JCC-led services for Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur, other programming highlights include Elul and Selichot events, a Forgive Me Film-a-thon, events for 20s + 30s and Adaptations groups, and more. To view the full lineup of High Holiday programs and services, additional resources, and to purchase tickets, visit [highholidays.mmjccm.org](http://highholidays.mmjccm.org).

All in-person services will take place at JCC Harlem.

As of Monday, September 13, all individuals over the age of 12 are required to show proof of full vaccination (via NYS Excelsior Pass, NYC COVID Safe app, or vaccination card) each time entering the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan and JCC Harlem.

### **JCC-LED HIGH HOLIDAY SERVICE SCHEDULE**

**Erev Rosh Hashanah Service for Families** with Rabbi Nikki DeBlosi, PhD. (In Person + Virtual)  
[Monday, September 6, 5:30 pm](#)

This service will have music and amplified sound, and it will be mostly in English with some Hebrew throughout. It will also be highly explanatory, geared toward those looking to learn more about the holiday and rituals. Join Rabbi Nikki DeBlosi, PhD for a meaningful, spirited, family-friendly Rosh Hashanah service and experience. Together, imagine a better world and what we can each do to make it a reality.

**Rosh Hashanah Day 1 Services** with Rabbi Nikki DeBlosi, PhD. (In Person + Virtual)

[Tuesday, September 7, 9:30 am + 11:30 am](#)

Blowing of the shofar (the horn of a ram or other animal); chanting of the Torah; storytelling, and time to reflect on the year that was and the year about to unfold. Services will be a mix of English inspiration and traditional Hebrew prayers. Jeff Cubeta will help set the tone, while participants follow along with words projected on a large screen. A warm, welcoming, come-as-you-are service led by Rabbi Nikki DeBlosi, PhD. Rosh Hashanah is a time of joy at the beginning of a new year as well as introspection as we help one another to become our best selves—in community.

**Harlem Community Tashlich and Shofar Service** (In Person, FREE)

[Tuesday, September 7, 6:00 pm](#)

On Rosh Hashanah we are invited to engage in self-examination. The blast of the shofar acts as a spiritual alarm clock, and the ritual of tashlich invites us to symbolically put things behind us by casting crumbs into the river.

**Rosh Hashanah Day 2** with Beineinu (In Person + Virtual)

[Wednesday, September 8, 10:30 am](#)

The service will include a Torah reading, art stations for young children, amplified sound, meditation, and text learning. In the main space, there will be art and drumming for kids; in one classroom there will be yoga, meditation, and chanting; and in another room there will be “Unpacking the Torah”—exploring text through a contemporary lens. Beineinu and JCC Harlem team up to bring in the new year with music, movement, meditation, and conversation. Rabbi Laurie Phillips, Daphna Mor, and their team offer a mix of learning, praying, and singing together, as well as stations of joy for young children, and meditation and discussion for adults.

**Tashlich at Home** (Virtual, FREE)

[Friday, September 10, 11:00 am](#)

Tashlich, meaning “casting off,” is a Jewish ritual that traditionally takes place during the Days of Awe, when people cast off their sins (represented by pieces of bread, stones, twigs or other objects) into a naturally flowing body of water.

**Kol Nidre** with Rabbi Joy Levitt (In Person + Virtual)

[Wednesday, September 15, 7:00 pm](#)

This service will be rooted in traditional liturgy in Hebrew, complemented by English poetry, additional readings, and instrumental accompaniment.

**Yom Kippur Morning Service** with Rabbi Nikki DeBlosi, PhD. (In Person + Virtual)

[Thursday, September 16, 9:30 am + 11:30 am](#)

Recitation of the traditional Hebrew prayers for forgiveness as well as English translations and versions; chanting of the Torah; singing and praying in Hebrew and English; storytelling, and time to reflect on how to forgive, seek forgiveness and become our best selves in the new year. This service will have amplified sound, and words will be projected onto a large screen for participants to follow along. A warm, welcoming, come-as-you-are service led by Rabbi Nikki DeBlosi, PhD.

**Yizkor Memorial Service** (Virtual, FREE)

[Thursday, September 16, 2:00 pm](#)

Yizkor, or “remembrance,” is a Jewish memorial service and prayer to honor the deceased. It is most commonly said for a parent, child, sibling or spouse, but may also be recited for any relative or close friend.

## **About the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan**

Together with its community, the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan creates opportunities for people to connect, grow, and learn within an ever-changing Jewish landscape. Located on 76th Street and Amsterdam Avenue, the JCC is a vibrant non-profit community center on the Upper West Side. It also presents a robust slate of virtual programming, serving an even wider community. The JCC serves over 55,000 people annually through 1,200 programs each season that educate, inspire, and transform participants' minds, bodies, and spirits. During the height of the COVID-19 pandemic, the JCC pivoted to meet the community online, exceeding 102,000 registrations to over 3,000 virtual classes and programs. Since its inception, the JCC has been committed to serving the community by offering programs, classes, and events that reach beyond neighborhood boundaries, reaching people at all stages of their lives. Learn more at [mmjccm.org](http://mmjccm.org)

## **About JCC Harlem**

An initiative of the Marlene Meyerson JCC Manhattan in collaboration with UJA-Federation of NY, JCC Harlem creates unique and diverse access points to Jewish and communal life for members of the Harlem community. It is an institution that is at once both intentionally Jewish and committed to facilitating experiences between those who identify Jewishly and those who identify otherwise – in service of connecting, growing, and learning within an ever-changing Jewish landscape. It is located at 318 W. 118<sup>th</sup> Street. Learn more at [jccharlem.org](http://jccharlem.org).

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