

JSA Programmes Committee Report and Summary for 2019-20 and Preview of 2020-21 for 2020 AGM

During the 2019-20 season Jewish Seniors Alliance Empowerment Series planned to present four events co-sponsored with four different community groups. The Programme Committee had chosen the theme "Be Inspired" for the four events.

The first in the series, presented with the Sholom Aleichem Seniors of the Vancouver Peretz Centre was held on Nov. 29th and was entitled, "Be Inspired through Story and Song". Shanie Levin read a number of stories on the theme and Myrna Rabinowitz sang songs that continued the theme.

The second programme presented with the JCC Seniors was the film "Music of the Heart", starring Meryl Streep, Angela Bassett and Cloris Leachman. The film told the story of the Opus 118 Harlem School of Music.

The next events in the series: One presented with Temple Sholom Seniors—a talk by an inspiring professor emeritus of Lower Fraser Valley University, Lynn Szabo, and another, a musical programme, to be held with Kehila of Richmond, were both postponed because of Covid-19.

Our Fall Symposium, was held Nov. 3rd, with COSCO's, Seniors' Health and Wellness Institute. Floyd Smith gave a presentation on Privacy and Security in the Internet Age". Many were inspired by his presentation and stayed long after to ask for further explanations.

We had planned a wonderful musical programme for the Spring Forum with Wendy Stuart and a number of other singers who were going to entertain us "With a Song in my Heart", because this event was planned for May it had to be cancelled. Hopefully, we will be able to present it at some later time.

Regarding the future (2020-21), we will be presenting a number of programmes on zoom. The first will be a musical show with Kehila, on Monday, Oct 19th, featuring Lester Soo, on piano, and opera singer, Christina Maria Fantini. There will likely be two other Empowerment events, one with Sholom Aleichem Seniors and one in the spring with Temple Sholom. It remains to be seen if these will be live or on zoom.

Our Fall Symposium, to be held on Sunday, November 22nd, will feature Dr. James McCormack, of UBC, speaking about Seniors in the time of Covid-19. Dr. McCormack has presented in the past and has been very well received.

It is the hope of the Programme Committee, as it is of all of us at JSA, that we will be able to come together for events in the not too distant future.

Shanie Levin
Programme Committee

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