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**Staenberg – Loup Jewish Community Center Ramps up Jewish Programming with Jewish Holiday Series and LGBTQIA+ Initiatives**

*Programs led by Shana Jacobs, new Director of Engagement and Jewish Learning*

**DENVER, Colo., January 28, 2019** – The [Staenberg-Loup Jewish Community Center](#) (JCC Denver) is increasing Jewish programming for the winter and spring months through its new Jewish Holiday Series events. The community center is also increasing its support of Jewish LGBTQIA+ initiatives and programming including hosting Purim Drag Royalty Bingo on March 7. Shana Jacobs is spearheading the programming efforts as the new Director of Engagement and Jewish Learning.

“The community has been asking us for new and varied Jewish programming around the holidays, so we’ve responded by ramping up our Jewish engagement opportunities,” said Jacobs. “We have also seen an increased need for LGBTQIA+ initiatives and are excited to launch fun, new programs in that area.”

Jacobs joined the JCC Denver in 2017 as part of the Camp Shai team, and continued to grow in that role as she transitioned into a role in the business office. Her creativity and passion towards Jewish education and programming led her into her new role today. As the new Director of Engagement and Jewish Learning, Jacobs oversees a team focused on Family Engagement (pre-conception through 5 years old), Teen and Young Adult Engagement, the Maccabi Games, Intergenerational programming, LGBTQIA+ programming and Jewish learning.

Highlight events for the upcoming months include:

**[Tu B’shvat Recycle Imagination City](#) – Feb. 9 from 3-5 p.m.** We have partnered with Einstein Academy to bring you this wonderful Tu B’shvat program! While your kids learn about Tu B’shvat and create mini cities/art masterpieces with our amazing staff, parents will join in a separate educational discussion about the benefits of Imaginative Play before joining back up with their children to help with the activity. Cost is \$5/child for J Pass and Fitness Members, \$10/child for guests. All ages welcome.

**Hamantashen Baking** – **March 6 at 10 a.m.** Volunteer with the JCC in making delicious Hamantashen for the Jewish holiday of Purim. Apricot, cherry, poppyseed... no matter your favorite, we will have it! Gluten free options will be available, as well. We will share these tasty treats with the seniors from Jewish Family Service at lunch (as well as some for yourself). All ages welcome. This event is free to attend.

**Drag Royalty Purim Bingo** – **March 7 from 7-10 p.m.** ConDRAGulations! You're invited to the Purim Party of the year. Join Denver's Drag Royalty as we play Bingo and party the night away. Costumes strongly encouraged and prizes for the winners (costume and Bingo)! It'll be fierce. Ticket costs are: \$30/participant for J Pass / Fitness Members and includes dinner and two drink tickets or \$50/participant for J Pass / Fitness Members for dinner and unlimited drinks. Guest costs are \$36/participant for dinner and two drink tickets or \$56/participant for dinner and unlimited drinks. Scholarships are available for tickets. Ages 21+

**Gefilte Fish Making** – **April 5 at 11 a.m.** Ever wanted to try making Gefilte fish, but didn't know where to start? Join us to perfect your recipe just in time for Passover. We will show the secrets to making mouthwatering Gefilte fish (gluten free options available). \$18 for J Pass and fitness members, \$25 for guests. Ages 16+

**Passover Art for Adults** – **March 29 from 10-11:30 a.m.** Paint a custom designed Seder plate made by the talented potters from the JCC Pottery Studio. Be inspired while sipping mimosas with friends. These plates will create family memories that last a lifetime. \$30/Seder plate for J Pass / Fitness Members, \$40/Seder plate for guests. Ages 21+

**Shavuot Float and Floats** – **May 27 from 3:30-5:30 p.m.** Join us for our second annual Shavuot Float and Floats Party. Stop by the pool for a quick dip and get a root beer float in between splashes! Hear a story about the Jewish Holiday of Shavuot while eating your tasty, summer treat. Free to attend. All Ages.

To learn more about the JCC Denver's events and to view their community calendar, visit <https://www.jccdenver.org/community-calendar/>.

#### **ABOUT STAENBERG – LOUP JEWISH COMMUNITY CENTER**

The [Staenberg – Loup Jewish Community Center](#) (JCC Denver) serves the metro-Denver area through educational, social, cultural, fitness, sports and other programs that are rooted in Jewish values. The JCC Denver's mission is to create a vibrant and inclusive family and social gathering place, guided by these timeless Jewish values. The JCC Denver's four program areas focus on connection, community and well-being and include: a robust fitness, sports, tennis and aquatic center; Early Childhood Engagement, including an Early Learning School and a variety of programs for families; the Mizel Arts and Culture Center which offers JAAMM Fest (Jewish Arts, Authors, Movies & Music), Denver Jewish Film Festival, Wolf Summer Theater Academy and adult art classes; summer camps including Ranch Camp and Camp Shai; Jewish life and learning programs and events, active adult programming like the Grandparent Connect Group, and a new LGBTQ program initiative. The JCC Denver is located at 350 S. Dahlia Street in Denver. For more information, visit [www.jccdenver.org](http://www.jccdenver.org), like us on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#) @jccdenver or call (303) 399-2660.

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