

## MACHAR ADULT EDUCATION CALENDAR—SPRING 2023

Adult Education sessions are on select Sundays from 10:00 AM to 11:30 PM

**\*\*\*All events will be on-line via Zoom and some will also occur simultaneously in person.**

**Most events will be recorded.**

Please contact Tara Newhouse at [administrator@machar.org](mailto:administrator@machar.org) for assistance

**We share details by email, newsletter, and at [www.machar.org](http://www.machar.org).**

### **January 8 (In-person and ZOOM)**

#### ***Marc Mauer – A Suitcase of Letters: The Wartime Correspondence of Joe and Millie Mauer***

After Marc Mauer's mother died she left behind a suitcase of his parents' correspondence while his father was overseas in World War II. Touching on questions of Jewish identity, political engagement, and family bonds, the hundreds of letters provide an intriguing look into how people raised in an immigrant New York Jewish community coped with this global disruption. A Machar member for three decades and current member of the Machar's Board of Directors, Marc will share insights into his family history, including excerpts from this collection. He is a Senior Advisor to The Sentencing Project, where he served as executive director prior to his retirement. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89949529854?pwd=NHZHTEJFQWFJNmovbjhISkVZNFI5Zz09>

### **January 22 (In-person and ZOOM)**

#### ***Ukraine – Update, and Personal Takes on the War***

A panel of current and past Machar members with direct ties to Ukraine will share thoughts on how the war has affected them and their memories of childhoods in Ukraine. Also, Machar member and Adult Education Committee Chair David Abramson will provide an update on Russia's war against Ukraine, the war's impact on the world, and prospects for peace.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86590108847?pwd=WVV5RGVvYjVLSGpMQ0E4RUFkWG52dz09>

### **February 5 (ZOOM only)**

#### ***Brandon Schorsch – Radicalization on the Internet***

Brandon Schorsch, the Combating Hate Program Manager for Jewish Community Action, will discuss Internet radicalization to hate of especially young men on the Internet. Brandon has run numerous trainings on Anti-Semitism and white nationalism for community groups, churches, synagogues, and government agencies. JCA works in coalition with its allies in the Minnesota area in the areas of housing justice, criminal justice, combating hate, and multiracial democracy.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUqce6rqT8vG9ctEaeVj3AYeT6Ao6CHWfu4>

### **February 12 (In-person and ZOOM)**

#### ***Akiva Liberman – Anti-semitism and philo-semitism in the US***

Where do the data discussed regarding anti-semitism and philo-semitism come from, and what do they tell us? Machar member Akiva Liberman will review hate crime data and survey data

about American attitudes towards Jews and other groups, and discuss how they are generated, and their strengths and weaknesses. Akiva was trained as a social psychologist and has conducted criminal justice research since the 1990s, within government and non-profit research organizations. He is currently a Senior Fellow at the Urban Institute.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82039377214?pwd=NURoZHIzRmhNdkdHeHZzam1ZUkwwQT09>

**March 5**      *No Adult Education today prior to the Purim program, which begins at 11AM*

**March 19 (ZOOM)**      *Dan Mach - Is Religious Freedom Still Protected?*

*Is Religion being used to discriminate in health care?*

*What about mandatory government funding of religious education?*

*Prayer on the football field with the coach?*

*Prayer in the classroom?*

**Daniel Mach is the Director of The ACLU Program on Freedom of Religion and Belief.** He also is an adjunct Professor of Law at the George Washington University Law School, focusing on Constitutional Law and Religious liberty.

Dan leads a wide range of religious liberty litigation, advocacy, and public education efforts nationwide; and often writes, teaches, and speaks publicly on religious freedom issues.

Prior to his work at the ACLU, Dan was a partner in the Washington office of Jenner & Block, where he specialized in First Amendment law.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwsce-urjlrGtOKPDTN2Rv4rrrwKdPeB-Tu>

**April 2 (ZOOM)**      *Kathy Tran - Being Jewish/Asian/American as a Public Figure*

Virginia Delegate Kathy Tran came to the U.S. from Vietnam with her parents when she was 5 months old. Her husband is Jewish and her family is active at a Reform synagogue. Kathy will discuss the Jewish/AAPI experience, including how anti-Semitism is felt by Jewish spouses who don't present as traditionally "Jewish," and recent challenges faced by both the Jewish community and Asian Americans. Before Kathy decided to run for office (following the 2016 presidential election), Kathy focused on providing families equal opportunity at the U.S. Department of Labor and the National Immigration Forum. Kathy has been active on many issues including the Equal Rights Amendment and pro-choice issues in Virginia, where 2023 is an election year.

**This program will be only 60 minutes because of the Pesach program, which will begin at 11am.**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEucO-grz0iHtLPcTDFbAMHBWQxN6hXjkTm>

**April 23 (In-person and ZOOM)**      *Machar Annual Membership Meeting*

There will be no Adult Education session today, but you can register to virtually attend the Annual Membership Meeting at the following link:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAtd-6tqz0tGdAlZmpBoA0zV7i7wgZ-EWpN>

**May 14 (In-person and ZOOM)** *Rabbi Jeremy Kridel – TBD*

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMldOqqqzkqE9AkfRGPF3yo2ByWxZe21Ghr>

**May 21 (In-person and ZOOM)** *Eric Kashdan – Challenges, Trends in US Democracy Law*

What lies ahead for campaign finance reform, ethics, and voting rights after the 2022 midterms and ahead of the 2024 presidential election? Senior Manager of Legislative Strategy for the Campaign Legal Center Eric Kashdan will discuss these issues and legislative debates now before Congress. The Center, a nonpartisan nonprofit based in Washington, uses litigation, policy advocacy, and communications to advance democracy through law, including work on effective federal campaign finance, ethics, voting rights, redistricting, and election laws. Eric previously served as a Legislative Assistant in the Senate and was involved in a successful effort to update the Electoral Count Act to safeguard the results of presidential elections.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMof-qgqTloEtLVAX-l1sBTQd3d2-pbgdZ>