



NEWS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: May 6, 2010
CONTACT: Joyce Kamen 513.543.8109

Website of the American Jewish Archives Selected for Inclusion in Library of Congress' 'Single Site' Project, Featuring Historic Collections of Internet Materials

Honor underscores historical significance of AJA's holdings

CINCINNATI, OH:--- The United States Library of Congress has selected the website of the Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives (AJA) — www.americanjewisharchives.org —for inclusion in its new **Single Site** project. The goal of the project is to harvest and archive historic websites covering a diverse array of topics selected by recommending librarians from the Library of Congress. The AJA website features extensive online exhibitions, catalogs, major manuscript and genealogical collections, educational resources, videos, microfilm records, multi-media presentations and more.

The Library's traditional functions—acquiring, cataloging, preserving and serving collection materials of historical importance to the Congress and to the American people to foster education and scholarship—extend to digital materials, including websites. Web archives are important because they contribute to the historical record, capturing information that could otherwise be lost. Records of historic events could be considered incomplete without materials that were 'born digital' and never printed on paper.

-MORE-



The Isaac Mayer Wise Digital Archive is a fully-searchable resource containing the correspondence and writings of Isaac Mayer Wise, the leading organizational genius behind the rise of American Reform Judaism in the late nineteenth century.

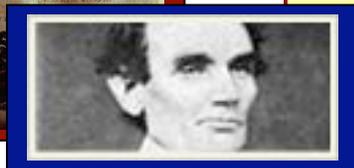
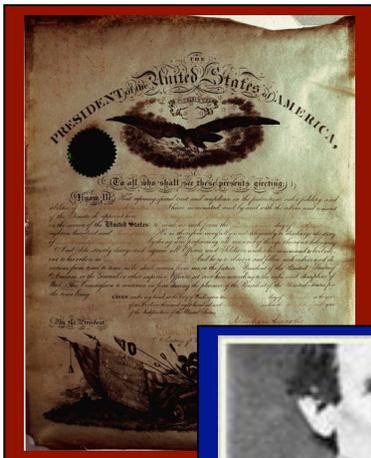
www.americanjewisharchives.org

The Library of Congress requested permission to collect the internet materials from the AJA's website and add it to the Library's research collections. The content will be harvested from the website by the Web Archiving Team at the Library of Congress. The collected content will then become available to researchers both onsite at the Library facilities, and on the Library's website at <http://www.loc.gov/webarchiving/>.

"This request by the Library of Congress to collect our website underscores the tremendous historical significance of the vast assets of the American Jewish Archives," said Dr. Gary P. Zola, Executive Director of the AJA and Professor of the American Jewish Experience at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. "The AJA contains the world's largest catalogued collection of documents and materials pertaining to the history of North American Jewry, and as such, its noteworthy contents contribute much to the Library's mission to preserve a universal collection of knowledge for future generations."

###

The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, founded in 1947 by its namesake on the Cincinnati, Ohio, campus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, is committed to preserving a documentary heritage of the religious, organizational, economic, cultural, personal, social and family life of American Jewry. The Marcus Center contains over 12,000 linear feet of archives, manuscripts, nearprint materials, photographs, audio and videotapes, microfilm, and genealogical materials.



Chaplaincy certificate of Jacob Frankel, one of the first Jewish chaplains appointed by President Abraham Lincoln, March 2, 1864.

Lincoln and the Jews Online Exhibition

www.americanjewisharchives.org