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CONTACT: Joyce Kamen — (513) 543-8109 Manda Hurdelbrink — 513) 324-8610

On its 135th Birthday, the Cincinnati Campus of Hebrew Union College Announces Major Expansion of Community-Wide Programming

CINCINNATI, OH:---As the Cincinnati campus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion celebrates the 135th anniversary of its founding, the oldest institution of higher Jewish learning in the western hemisphere announces a major expansion of its community outreach programming initiatives.

“The resources on this campus are truly unparalleled,” said Dr. Jonathan Cohen, Community Outreach Director and Director of HUC-UC Center for the Study of Ethics and Contemporary Moral Problems. “As one of this community’s most esteemed historical institutions, we are focused on sharing these academic and intellectual treasures with more people than ever before.”

Beginning in November, the College will offer a variety of campus-based programs and activities that will be free and open to the entire community. Events include history lectures by leading scholars, authors’ lectures and musical concerts. Groups can also request docent-led tours of some of the campus’ peerless places of interest including the Skirball Museum, the Archaeology Center, the Klau Library and the American Jewish Archives. External outreach programs will also be part of Hebrew Union College’s community-wide efforts. More information on the programs and events is available at www.hucinci.org.

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Rabbi Kenneth Ehrlich, Dean of the Cincinnati campus, says that many of these new initiatives are also ways to deepen HUC's longstanding partnerships with this community's religious and secular institutions. "This community gave birth to this institution 135 years ago and labors to sustain and nurture it to this day," noted Ehrlich. "So now, we are reaching back to the community with many program initiatives that are of significant interest and relevance to thousands," noted Ehrlich. "All are warmly welcomed to this historic campus to delight in—and become enriched by—its vast assets." (*See attachments*)

*In celebration of the Cincinnati campus's 135th anniversary, the Cincinnati Associates of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion will host a celebration and tribute dinner—**Planting for Our Future**—on Sunday evening, October 24 at the Hyatt Regency Ballroom in downtown Cincinnati. Cocktails will begin at 5:30 p.m. followed by the dinner and program at 6:30 p.m.*

Karen Hoguet, Chief Financial Officer and Executive Vice President of Macy's Inc., and James A. Miller, Chairman of Bartlett & Company—a Cincinnati-based investment advisory firm—will be honored for their civic and philanthropic leadership and achievement. Dick Weiland is the dinner chair. Event proceeds will provide scholarship support for the Rabbinical and Graduate students on the Cincinnati campus. Tickets are \$125 per person and can be obtained by contacting Phyllis Volan at 513.487.3032; or via e-mail at pvolan@huc.edu. RSVPs are requested by Oct. 11.

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Founded in 1875, **Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion** is the nation's oldest institution of higher Jewish education and the academic, spiritual, and professional leadership development center of Reform Judaism. HUC-JIR educates men and women for service to American and world Jewry as rabbis, cantors, educators, and communal service professionals, and offers graduate and post-graduate programs to scholars of all faiths. With centers of learning in Cincinnati, Jerusalem, Los Angeles, and New York, HUC-JIR's scholarly resources comprise renowned library and museum collections, the American Jewish Archives, biblical archaeology excavations, research institutes and centers, and academic publications. HUC-JIR invites the community to an array of cultural and educational programs which illuminate Jewish history, identity, and contemporary creativity and which foster interfaith and multiethnic understanding. **Visit us at www.huc.edu**

ATTACHMENTS



COMMUNITY-WIDE PROGRAM INITIATIVES

- **“CONCERTS ON CLIFTON”**

This series of concerts will feature predominantly Jewish music—including contemporary music (from popular culture to Broadway); as well as classical music, including new music from contemporary composers. Professional musicians will perform concerts in the historic Scheuer Chapel, located in the main classroom building on the College’s Clifton campus.

- **“BOOKS OF NOTE”**

This lecture series will present authors discussing their newly published books on topics of Jewish interest in history, religion, ethics, contemporary issues and more.

- **OPEN HISTORY LECTURES**

Faculty and fellows offer lectures in on a wide range of topics pertaining to Jewish history.



DOCENT-LED TOURS

- **THE KLAU LIBRARY**

The Klau Library is one of the most extensive Jewish libraries in the world. With 420,000 printed items of Judaica, the Library is the second largest collection of printed Judaica in the world—second only to the Jewish National and University Library in Jerusalem. It contains over 700,000 volumes, more than 2,000 manuscript codices, and many thousands of pages of archival documents. Special collections include Jewish Americana, music, an outstanding Spinoza collection, and extensive microforms.

- **THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES**

The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives (AJA), founded in 1947, is the world's largest free-standing research center dedicated solely to the study of the American Jewish experience. The AJA collects and catalogues primary source materials, both published and manuscript, reflecting the life and history of North American Jewry. Scholars, academics, and independent researchers are drawn to Cincinnati from around the world in order to use the AJA's rich holdings, which include the archives of the World Jewish Congress, the World Union for Progressive Judaism, the Women of Reform Judaism and, of course, the papers of the Hebrew Union College. The AJA's state of the art distance-learning classroom —*The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati International Learning Center*—hosts a wide range of speakers and educational programs that benefit both the Jewish and general community.

- **THE SKIRBALL MUSEUM**

The HUC-Skirball Museum houses a permanent collection comprising seven thematic galleries that portray the cultural, historical and religious heritage of the Jewish people: Immigration, Cincinnati Jewry, Torah, the Holocaust, Jewish festivals and life cycles, archaeology and Israel.

- **THE ARCHAEOLOGY CENTER**

The Archaeology Center at the Skirball Museum at the Cincinnati School houses an artifact study collection from ancient Canaan and Israel.

- **THE SCHEUER CHAPEL**

Built in 1911 within the campus' first classroom building, the Scheuer Chapel is the heart of the historic campus. Major leaders of Jewish life have ascended its pulpit to deliver sermons, conduct services or perform concerts. The ark containing the Torah scrolls are from 19th century Poland.



EXTERNAL COMMUNITY OUTREACH

- **THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF ETHICS AND CONTEMPORARY MORAL PROBLEMS**

The Center for the Study of Ethics and Contemporary Moral Problems—a joint project of HUC-JIR and the University of Cincinnati—is a national resource center for the exploration of critical ethical and moral issues. The Center's activities include lectures, conferences, symposia, and publications, as well as courses taught by visiting faculty and faculty from the College-Institute and the University of Cincinnati.

- **CLINICAL PASTORAL EDUCATION**

The Cincinnati campus of Hebrew Union College—the only rabbinical school in the world to be accredited by the Association for Clinical Pastoral Education (ACPE)— is expanding its Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) program to include clergy of all faith traditions. As an emerging national center for CPE, HUC's CPE students provide pastoral counseling services in hospital, congregational, social service agency and hospice settings.

- **THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES (AJA)**

The AJA's state of the art distance learning classroom - The Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati International Learning Center - hosts a wide range of educational programs focusing on the history of American Jewry, including a featured speakers, film documentaries, academic symposia, and community forums. In addition, more than a dozen of the AJA's visiting scholars offer Fellowship Lectures on a range of historical topics that are open to the general community.

- **ACADEMY FOR ADULT INTERFAITH STUDY**

The Academy for Adult Interfaith Studies offers courses—taught by interfaith instructors—in a variety of areas that touch upon interfaith dialogue and learning. Courses include Introduction to New Testament Studies, Introduction to Hebrew Bible, Ethical Issues Confronting Religious Communities, and Art, Culture and Religion. (*Beginning Spring, 2011.*)

- **ANNUAL EFROYMSON LECTURE**

This annual lecture series focuses on major issues in Jewish thought and theology. The 2011 lecture will be held on Sunday, April 10. It will be a symposium on Biblical studies and thought in honor of Dr. Samuel Greengus, retired Director of HUC's School of Graduate Studies. Participants will include Jewish and Christian alumni of the graduate school from all over the country who studied with Dr. Greengus.