



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**KEYNOTE BY RABBI RACHEL BARENBLAT, THE “VELVETEEN RABBI,”
HEADLINES 5TH DAY OF JEWISH LEARNING
SUN. NOV. 17 AT SUNY ULSTER IN STONE RIDGE
Plus Sessions with Area Spiritual & Lay Leaders – Kosher food Included!**

Kingston, NY, October 24: Well-known as the “Velveteen Rabbi,” Rabbi Rachel Barenblat will present the keynote address at the Federation’s 5th **Day of Jewish Learning on Sunday, November 17**, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm at SUNY Ulster. Rabbi Barenblat is an acclaimed writer, scholar, poet and blogger and her work may be seen at <https://velveteenrabbi.com/>. The event is co-presented by the Jewish Federation of Ulster County and SUNY Ulster at Vanderlyn Hall at the College’s Cottekill campus in Stone Ridge, NY. You don’t have to be Jewish or a scholar to enjoy and learn from the featured guest presenters and area spiritual and lay leaders. Advance registration is requested. Admission is open to people from all backgrounds and ages. On-line advance registration at www.ucjf.org is encouraged, and is \$30 for adults; (\$35 at the door); Veterans discount with ID is \$25, and suggested donation for teens and students is \$10; Kosher lunch and snacks are included. Presenters are donating their services for the day. For further information, please call 845-338-8131 or email: info@ucjf.org. *The 2019 Day of Jewish Learning is dedicated to the memory of Charles Shanok, a former Federation board member and enthusiastic supporter of this program.*

Featured among the presenters are area spiritual leaders including: **Rabbi Jonathan Kligler** from the Woodstock Jewish Congregation (WJC), who will speak on: “Zionism and Anti-Zionism” and WJC student rabbi **Miriam Geronimus** who will offer: “Judaism and Science: Is There a Conflict?” **Reb Shir Yaakov Feit**, who leads congregation Kol Hai in New Paltz, will offer a session on “Music, Movement and Meditation;” and “**Cantor Bob**” **Cohen**, from Congregation Emanuel of the Hudson Valley, will offer a participatory singing session.

Additional participants and subjects include: **Julia Indichova**: "Birth Your Next Creation and Repair the Earth;" **Judith Kerman** (aka Reb Kugel) “Sacred Clowning in the Jewish Tradition;” **Jeff Gold**: "Early Jewish History in the New World"; **Sharon Rosen**: "Illumination: A Healing Journey Through Kabbalah;" and **Yael Bernhard** speaking about Jewish Art. A tentative schedule will be available from the Federation office in late October and at: www.ucjf.org.

There will be activities for young children (free admission), and families will be able to register for **PJ Library**, a monthly book club for young children. Registrants may bring up to five books (but NO sacred texts, please) for a Jewish-themed book exchange.

For further information, please visit www.ucjf.org or contact the Jewish Federation of Ulster County at 845-338-8131. End