



TRAVELS IN
American Jewish
History

NEW ORLEANS, LA

AUGUST 26-30, 2015



co-sponsored by



THE JACOB RADER MARCUS CENTER OF THE
AMERICAN JEWISH ARCHIVES



UNION *for*
REFORM JUDAISM



On August 26-30, 2015 the AJA will be leading a group to learn about the history of the Jewish community of New Orleans, LA. Participants will have the opportunity to interact with leading scholars in American Jewish history and tour area sites and landmarks first hand.

- Visit historic synagogues including Touro Synagogue, Temple Sinai and Gates of Prayer, and discover their own unique stories.
- Explore the New Orleans sights and sounds including the French Quarter, the Garden District, Long Vue House and Gardens, & the World War II Museum.
- Interact with participants and featured scholars as well as special guest speakers on topics such as the origins of Jazz and Jewish women in New Orleans.

Featured Scholars

Dr. Stuart Rockoff is the Executive Director of the Mississippi Humanities Council and a scholar of Southern Jewish History. In 2010, he received the Preserver of Mississippi Culture Award from the Council in recognition of his work with it as a project director for grant-funded programs, scholar, oral historian, evaluator, and lecturer. His bachelor of arts degree in U.S. history is from Wesleyan University in Middletown, CT. His master of arts and PhD, also in U.S. history, are from the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Michael Cohen is an Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies at Tulane University, where he holds Mellon and Sizeler Professorships. He earned his Ph.D. in American Jewish History from Brandeis University, and is the author of *The Birth of Conservative Judaism: Solomon Schechter's Disciples and the Creation of an American Religious Movement* (Columbia University Press, 2012). His current research focuses on Jewish merchants in the postbellum Gulf South.

Dr. Gary P. Zola is the executive director of The American Jewish Archives and The Edward M. Ackerman Family Distinguished Professor of the American Jewish Experience & Reform Judaism at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. His recently published volumes include *We Called Him Rabbi Abraham: Lincoln and American Jewry* (Southern Illinois University Press, 2014), and (with Marc Dollinger) *American Jewish History: A Primary Source Reader* (Brandeis University Press, 2014.)





Program Highlights

- We will begin our journey with an overview of this remarkable southern city, viewing historical sites in the French Quarter and beyond. The trip will include a visit to a New Orleans' cemetery where some of the local Jewish notables are buried.
- We will visit a few of the historic congregations of New Orleans as we study and interact with the scholars. Participants will have ample opportunity to view photographs and historic records from this southern community as we travel to Tulane University and visit their archives.
- We will stop at the Long Vue House and Gardens, an estate designed in 1939-1942 for philanthropists Edgar Bloom Stern, a New Orleans cotton broker, and his wife Edith Rosenwald Stern, daughter of Sears founder Julius Rosenwald.
- We will attend services at a local synagogue and meet with members of the local Jewish community.
- Also on our tour agenda is the National WWII Museum featuring thought-provoking and interactive exhibits that explore the American Experience.
- Our farewell event on Saturday evening will include a symposium on the history of jazz including the participation of a local live jazz quartet.



Program Schedule:

The program will begin on Wednesday, August 26, 2015 at 2:00 p.m. and will conclude on Sunday, August 30, 2015 at 1:00 p.m. We will be touring every day as well as attending services at one of the Reform congregations in New Orleans.

Tour Pricing:

- \$585.00 (per person) which includes a \$100 non-refundable registration fee.
- Registration includes all tours and 11 meals (all meals except one free night out)
- The fee does **NOT INCLUDE** travel to and from New Orleans or the price of your stay in the hotel.
- During registration, you may pay the registration fee and pay the balance by June 1, 2015, or you may pay the entire fee.

Register on line at <http://tinyurl.com/AJA-NewOrleans> OR AmericanJewishArchives.org
or call Nancy Dowlin at 513-487-3017

Cancellations:

You may be refunded up to \$485.00 for cancellation until July 25, 2015. After that time there are no refunds available.

Hotel:

We have obtained a group rate at the Omni Riverfront Hotel, 701 Convention Center Blvd., New Orleans, LA, 70130. The Omni is just 15.3 miles from Louis Armstrong New Orleans International Airport.

<http://www.omnihotels.com/hotels/new-orleans-riverfront>

\$149 for a King Single

\$159 for a Deluxe Double (if two people are staying in the room there is an additional charge of \$20 for the second person)

If you would like to stay extra nights either before or after the tour, the hotel will honor the group rate from August 23 – September 2.

Reservations must be made by the registrant no later than July 25, 2015. To make reservations please contact the general reservation desk and say you are with the “American Jewish Archives group.” The phone number is: 888-444-6664.

Meals:

Meals included in the tour are “kosher style.” You may provide any special dietary needs when registering.

Transporting During the Trip:

We will be traveling primarily via bus while on tours and visiting restaurants and sites. There is some walking on the tours, but we will make every effort to accommodate any special needs to the best of our ability. Please do indicate any limited mobility needs when registering.

For more information contact:

Ms. Lisa B. Frankel, Director of Programs

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