LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Dear Friends,

YIVO is thriving. 2019 was another year of exciting growth. Work proceeded on schedule for the Edward Blank YIVO Vilna Online Collections and we anticipate completion of this landmark project in December 2021. Millions of pages of never-before-seen documents and rare or unique books have now been digitized and put online for researchers, teachers, and students around the world to read. The next important step in developing YIVO’s online capabilities is the creation of the Bruce and Francesca Cernia Slovin Online Museum of East European Jewish Life. The museum will launch early 2021. The first gallery, devoted to the autobiography of Beba Epstein, is currently being tested. Through the art of storytelling the museum will provide the historical context for the archive’s vast array of original documents, books, and other artifacts, with some materials being translated to English for the first time.

In 2019 we also initiated work on the 4th Shine Online Educational Series class on Jewish food. This entertaining and educational program will launch May 1 with an event at the National Museum of American History in Washington, D.C.

Other highlights include a fabulous segment on Mashable’s online “What’s in the Basement?” series; a New York Times feature article (June 25, 2019) on the acquisition of the archive of Nachman Blumenthal; a BuzzFeed Newsletter article (December 22, 2019) on Chanukah photos in the DP camps; and a New Yorker article (December 30, 2019) on YIVO’s Autobiographies.

YIVO is an exciting place to work, to study, to explore, and to reconnect with the great treasures of the Jewish heritage of Eastern Europe and Russia. Please come for a visit, sign up for a tour, or catch us online on our YouTube channel (@YIVOInstitute).

Jonathan Brent
Executive Director & CEO

ABOVE: Children playing with a makeshift telephone. Haifa School Children’s Album, 1932. YIVO Archives.
COVER: Students at YIVO’s 2019 Summer Program (siem [graduation]). Photo: Melanie Einzig.
**WHAT IS THE CANTORIAL “GOLDEN AGE”?**
Scholar and musician Jeremiah Lockwood offers insights from the YIVO archival holdings that illuminate the impassioned debates among cantors and their critics in the early 20th century. Cantor Yoel Kohn will join Lockwood in performances of representative works from classic records.

**TUESDAY**
**FEB 04**
7:00PM
FELLOWSHIP LECTURE

**LEGACY OF BLOOD: JEWS, POGROMS, AND RITUAL MURDER IN THE LANDS OF THE SOVIETS**
The most extreme legacies of tsarist antisemitism were pogroms and blood libels. After coming to power, the Soviets claimed to have eliminated these phenomena. In her revelatory new book, Elisia Bemporad demonstrates that the Soviets’ claim was part propaganda, part reality.

**THURSDAY**
**FEB 06**
7:00PM
BOOK LAUNCH

**CONFESSIONS OF A YIDDISH WRITER AND OTHER ESSAYS BY CHAVA ROSENFARB**
Chava Rosenfarb was one of the most prominent Yiddish novelists of the second half of the twentieth century. This new book, compiled and edited by Goldie Margentaler, comprises thirteen personal and literary essays by Rosenfarb.

**MONDAY**
**MAR 02**
7:00PM
BOOK LAUNCH

**THE ODYSSEY OF AN APPLE THIEF**
Moishe Rozenbaumas’s autobiography takes us through his fascinating life, starting with his boyhood in prewar Lithuania, with a focus on the rarely accounted for, most impoverished part of the Jewish population.

**TUESDAY**
**MAR 10**
7:00PM
DISCUSSION
Co-sponsored by LaGuardia Community College Social Science Department and Routledge

**WHY THE FAR RIGHT KILLS**
Researcher Chip Berlet and journalist Talia Lavin will discuss the Far Right’s themes of demonization, scapegoating, conspiracism and apocalypticism and offer their perspectives on how to deal with this toxic social current.

**WEDNESDAY**
**MAR 25**
7:00PM
SIDNEY KRUM YOUNG ARTISTS CONCERT SERIES
Co-sponsored by American Sephardi Federation

**SEPHARDIC ART SONG: A MUSICAL LEGACY OF THE SEPHARDIC DIASPORA**
Mezzo-soprano and music scholar Lori Şen discusses the history, language, and culture of the Sephardim, focusing on the elements and stylistic features of Sephardic music. Following the lecture is a recital of Sephardic songs with Şen, Jeremy Lyons, and Alexei Ulitin.

**MONDAY**
**APR 20**
7:00PM
CONCERT
In partnership with Carnegie Hall’s Beethoven Celebration

**BEETHOVEN IN THE YIDDISH IMAGINATION**
Celebrate Beethoven in the Yiddish imagination, with a performance of Ode to Joy in Yiddish translation, a bilingual reading of a Yiddish story about the Moonlight Sonata, and performances of two of Beethoven’s masterworks with Jewish connections.

The launch of our next online class, A Seat at the Table: A Journey into Jewish Food, will take place at the Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History. For more information, see page 6.

**TUESDAY**
**MAY 19**
7:00PM
PODCAST RECORDING
Co-sponsored by LabA: A Laboratory for Jewish Culture, The 14th Street Y

**BAD RABBI – LIVE PODCAST RECORDING**
YIVO’s Eddy Portnoy joins Charlie Buckholtz on his Bad Rabbi Podcast for a discussion of Portnoy’s book, Bad Rabbi and Other Strange but True Stories from the Yiddish Press. An underground history of downwardly mobile Jews, Bad Rabbi mines the Yiddish press to expose the seamy underbelly of pre-WWII New York and Warsaw.

**COMPOSING IDENTITY: YIDDISH FOLKSONG IN CLASSICAL MUSIC**
Enjoy a concert of classical works that incorporate Yiddish folksongs from Jewish and non-Jewish composers, including the premiere of five new works engaging with these melodies in new ways from composers Martin Bresnick, Marti Epstein, Aaron Kernis, Judith Shatin, and Alex Weiser. Featuring Emily Donato, Martin Bakari, violinist Jacob Ashworth, and pianist Lee Dionne.

**AN-SKI FESTIVAL**
Celebrating the Life and Legacy of Writer and Ethnographer S. An-ski, In Honor of His 100th Yortsayt

**THE DYBBUK: BETWEEN TWO WORLDS – OPERA BY OFER BEN-AMOTS**
Join us for a Hebrew-language semi-staged concert performance of this chamber opera adaption of The Dybbuk, created by Israeli-American composer Ofer Ben-Amots. This is the opera’s first time being performed in New York City.

**DYBBUKS, GOLEMS, S. AN-SKI, AND JEWISH LEGENDS IN TIMES OF FEAR**
S. An-ski’s play The Dybbuk, a story of possession set in a shtetl, is the foundation of modern Jewish drama. This talk by scholar Gabriella Safran explores its roots: in Jewish folklore, the scandalous blood libel trial in Kiev in 1913, and the political passions of Russian-Jewish revolutionaries.

**THE DYBBUK – FILM SCREENING**
In The Dybbuk, boundaries separating the natural from the supernatural dissolve as ill-fated pledges, unfulfilled passions, and untimely deaths ensnare two families in a tragic labyrinth of spiritual possession. Come see a screening of this classic film, remastered and with new English subtitles by The National Center for Jewish Film.

**UNABLE TO ATTEND OUR PROGRAMS?**
Watch past YIVO events at yivo.org/Video.

Programs take place at YIVO unless otherwise noted:
15 West 16th Street, NYC, located in the Center for Jewish History
YIVO HONORS ROBERTA GROSSMAN AND SAMUEL KASSOW AT GALA DINNER

Over 150 people attended YIVO’s November 20th gala, honoring award-winning documentary filmmaker Roberta Grossman and leading Holocaust and Jewish history scholar Dr. Samuel Kassow. Ms. Grossman directed the acclaimed documentary film *Who Will Write Our History* based on the book of the same title by Dr. Kassow.

The documentary tells the story of the heroic efforts of Emanuel Ringelblum and his compatriots, to document in real time the daily life and struggles in the Warsaw Ghetto at great risk to their own lives. Nancy Spielberg, the Executive Producer of the film, served as Master of Ceremonies for the evening.

“Sam’s book and Roberta’s film provide an important service in educating the general public on a range of important historical issues, and as the Executive Producer of the film we have Nancy to thank for bringing this history to audiences around the world,” said YIVO Board Chair Ruth Levine.

As part of the gala, YIVO hosted a reverse auction, giving attendees an opportunity to bid on supporting YIVO initiatives: sponsoring a student in the Summer Program, sponsoring a Winter Program class, funding the digitization of rare books and periodicals in the library, and funding archival boxes. 56 bids were placed, raising an additional $86,400.

Amongst those in attendance at the event were Consul General of Israel in New York Dani Dayan, Acting General Consul of Lithuania Gitana Skripkaite, American women’s rights attorney Gloria Allred, and Israeli-American economist and former vice chairman of the Federal Reserve Stanley Fischer.

NEW BOARD MEMBER: HARRY WAGNER

Born on Christmas Day, 1946, in the Heidenheim, Germany DP Camp, Harry is the son of Vilna-born Holocaust survivors, Rubin and Sima Wagner. His sister, grandparents, aunt, and uncle did not survive. Between them, Harry’s parents survived nine different German concentration camps before emigrating to the U.S. in 1949. His connection to YIVO was vividly formed in the early 1970s while helping his father create the two-volume memorial book, *Vilna-in-Pictures*. YIVO was a vital resource for these volumes. The Wagner Family has endowed and created the Rubin and Sima Wagner Gallery on the third floor at YIVO.

A graduate of Syracuse University and Brooklyn Law School, Harry has been a practicing attorney concentrating in banking, loan restructuring, real estate, and planning and zoning since 1972.

While visiting with his two children and three grandchildren in New York, Harry devotes time to charitable causes and religious organizations; President of Dix Hills Jewish Center, Dix Hills, NY; Co-chair of the Holocaust Committee of the Long Island Division of UJA-Federation of NY; and other UJA Committees; and, SHALVA (Israel).

500 BOOKS FROM CHAIM GRADE’S PERSONAL COLLECTION ADDED TO YIVO’S LIBRARY CATALOG

500 of approximately 20,000 books in Chaim Grade’s personal collection were brought to YIVO to create a Chaim Grade Memorial Library. This work was completed in the fall and the books were added to the YIVO Library catalog. The books were cataloged with special attention given to the peculiarities that made these copies unique to Grade. Topics range from Yiddish prose to Romantic era poetry, ancient Roman history to 20th century psychology, providing insight into the life and interests of Chaim and his wife Inna.

NEW PRESIDENT OF LITHUANIA VISITS YIVO

On September 26, the newly elected President of the Republic of Lithuania, H.E. Gitanas Nauseda, and First Lady Diana Nausediene visited YIVO. Their visit highlights the important ties between Lithuania and YIVO and acknowledges how Jewish history and culture shaped the identity of the countries of the world, including Lithuania. The President and First Lady viewed an array of materials from YIVO’s collections, including the *Pinkas* of Rabbi Elijah ben Solomon Zalman’s synagogue. Known as the Vilna Gaon, Rabbi Elijah was the most significant religious leader of his generation. This visit followed Mr. Brent receiving the Cross of the Knight of the Order for Merits to Lithuania in July, recognizing the cooperation between Lithuania and YIVO and the preservation of Lithuania’s prewar Jewish archives.

500 BIBLIOGRAPHIC CATALOGS ADDED TO YIVO’S DIGITAL DATABASE

YIVO thanks its many incredible volunteers for all their hard work and assistance.

- Dr. Evelyn Ackerman
- Sonia Bay
- Renata Borow
- Faivis Brauer
- Francine Brown
- Bella Bryks Klein
- Dr. Faina Burkho
- Stew Driller
- Jane Foss
- Rosalie Frost
- Charles Goldfischer
- Osnat Greenbaum
- Estelle Guzik
- Harriet Holzman
- Laurel Kallen
- Lorraine Korn
- Alys Kremer
- Dr. Chava Lapin
- Evelyn Leicher
- Dr. Gail Malmgreen
- Malka Margolies
- Selma Marks
- Dr. Ellen Mausner
- Susan Milamed
- Selma Perlstein
- Esther Peterseil
- Eli Rabe
- Mimi Sandler
- Reuven Schlenker
- Ellie Schwerber
- Maxine Spiegel
- Sophia Tarnagurskaya
- Paula Trushin
- Robin Wright
- Dr. Aurora Zinder

*Who Will Write Our History* documentary film represents a wide spectrum of topics, from medical records to pogroms in Ukraine to the record of YIVO documents turned over to Nazis.

*Who Will Write Our History* documentary film

*Who Will Write Our History* documentary film
Books from Chaim Grade’s personal collection, now part of the YIVO Library catalog.

Patients’ medical records from the Children’s Department in the Vilnius Jewish Women and Children Hospital, 1924-1925. This artifact from the YIVO Archives was on view at the Wroblewski Library in Vilnius, Lithuania.

The recently appointed President of the Republic of Lithuania H.E. Gitanas Nausėda and First Lady Diana Nausediēnė visited YIVO in New York, highlighting the important ties between Lithuania and YIVO.

Harry Wagner, new member of the YIVO Board of Directors.
EDUCATION

SPRING CLASSES

Register at yivo.org/Classes

BAY MIR BISTU SHEYN!
FROM RUMANIA TO SECOND AVENUE
Instructor: Neil Levin | 6:00pm-8:00pm
Begins February 5 | 6 Sessions, Wednesdays

BEGINNER YIDDISH
Instructor: Josh Price | 6:00pm-8:00pm
Begins February 20 | 10 Sessions, Thursdays

ADVANCED BEGINNER YIDDISH
Instructor: Paula Teitelbaum | 6:00pm-8:00pm
Begins February 24 | 10 Sessions, Mondays

INTERMEDIATE YIDDISH
Instructor: Dovid Braun | 6:00pm-8:00pm
Begins February 20 | 10 Sessions, Thursdays

2020 URIEL WEINREICH SUMMER PROGRAM IN YIDDISH LANGUAGE, LITERATURE, AND CULTURE

Learn more and apply at summerprogram.yivo.org

JUNE 29 – AUGUST 7, 2020
Our six-week intensive program, featuring five levels of language study, history and culture seminars, shmues (conversation) classes, a theater workshop, tours of the Lower East Side and Hasidic Borough Park, a translation workshop, lectures by visiting scholars, Yiddish theater and music performances, and more.

If six weeks isn’t enough, join us for our additional programs to expand your Yiddish learning:

REFRESHER COURSE | JUNE 22-26, 2020
Instructor: Dovid Braun

YIDDISH: THE NEXT LEVEL | AUGUST 10-21, 2020
Instructors: Miriam Trinh and Eliezer Niborski

International and Financial Applicants Apply by: February 27*
General Applicants Apply by: March 31

* Financial aid is available for international and domestic students

YIVO-BARD WINTER PROGRAM ON ASHKENAZI CIVILIZATION

Held annually in January since 2012, the YIVO-Bard Winter Program invites students to delve into Ashkenazi Jewish life and culture covering its thousand-year history in Eastern Europe and across the diaspora. Over 100 students attended the 2020 Winter Program, which featured courses taught by Jonathan Brent, Anita Norich, Elzbieta Janicka, Irena Kлепфisz, Eddy Portnoy, Ron Robboy, Ilan Stavans, and Spencer Sunshine. The keynote lecture, given by Yevgenia M. Albats, discussed Jewish life in Russia today and the wave of Jewish emigration from the country.

Running concurrently with the Winter Program was YIVO’s new series of winter Yiddish courses. The Beginner Yiddish Intensive course was taught by Josh Price and the Advanced Yiddish Intensive course was taught by Dovid Braun. These were offered for the first time due to an increased demand for Yiddish language courses that YIVO has experienced over the last few years.

A Seat at the Table
A Journey into Jewish Food

The latest online course from YIVO’S SHINE ONLINE EDUCATIONAL SERIES

Join us for an exploration into the heart of Jewish food, with an emphasis on the Ashkenazi table. This course features hundreds of never-before-seen archival objects, lectures by leading scholars, interviews with food critics, and video demonstrations of your favorite Jewish recipes by renowned chefs. Discover how the essence of Jewish food has remained constant even as the recipes have evolved and changed with the migration of Jews around the world.

Visit yivo.org/Food for news and updates!

A Seat at the Table is sponsored by:

The Edward Blank Family Foundation
The Covenant Foundation
The Shine Trust

Explore YIVO’s other online course offerings at yivo.org/Shine.

COOKING UP HISTORY: THE VILNA VEGETARIAN COOKBOOK

Our guest chef Joan Nathan is a renowned cookbook author and expert on Jewish foodways. During this demonstration, she will shed light on a largely unknown culinary educator and author, Fania Lewando, who lived in Vilna, Lithuania in the early 20th century. Lewando authored one of the first Jewish cookbooks dedicated to vegetarianism, *The Vilna Vegetarian Cookbook* (1938).

Join Joan Nathan and Smithsonian food historian Ashley Rose Young as they prepare dishes from Lewando’s cookbook and explore the history of Vilna, the devastating impacts of the Holocaust on the city’s Jewish population, and one woman’s efforts to sustain her community through food.

This cooking demonstration is held in partnership with the YIVO Institute for Jewish Research.

Demonstration at 1:00pm in the Wallace H. Coulter Performance Plaza, 1 West, Smithsonian’s National Museum of American History Constitution Avenue, between 12th and 14th Streets North West
E T H O V E N  W A S  B O R N  O N  D e c e m b e r  1 7 ,  1 7 7 0 .  T o  c e l e b r a t e  t h e  2 5 0 t h  a n n i v e r s a r y  o f  h i s  b i r t h  C a r n e g i e  H a l l  i s  h o l d i n g  a  f e s t i v a l  f r o m  J a n u a r y - J u n e  2 0 2 0  i n c l u d i n g  p e r f o r m a n c e s  o f  a l l  o f  h i s  S y m p h o n i e s ,  P i a n o  S o n a t a s ,  a n d  S t r i n g  Q u a r t e t s .  Y I V O  i s  o n e  o f  t e n  p a r t n e r  o r g a n i z a t i o n s  a r o u n d  N e w  Y o r k  C i t y  t h a t  C a r n e g i e  H a l l  i n v i t e d  t o j o i n  t h e i r  f e s t i v a l  b y  h o s t i n g  e v e n t s  o f  t h e i r  o w n .  T h i s  i n v i t a t i o n  g a v e  u s  a t  Y I V O  a  w o n d e r f u l  o p p o r t u n i t y  t o  e x p l o r e  t h e  B e e t h o v e n - r e l a t e d  m a t e r i a l s  i n  o u r  o w n  c o l l e c t i o n s .  W e  h a v e  Y i d d i s h  t r a n s l a t i o n s  a n d  a d a p t a t i o n s  o f  O d e  t o  J o y  a n d  o t h e r  v o c a l  w o r k s .  W e  h a v e  b e a u t i f u l l y  i l l u s t r a t e d  Y i d d i s h  c h i l d r e n ’ s  b o o k s  a b o u t  B e e t h o v e n .  W e  h a v e  Y i d d i s h  p o e t r y  a b o u t  B e e t h o v e n .  W e  h a v e  n o v e l s ,  t r a v e l o g u e s ,  n e w s p a p e r  s t o r i e s ,  e v e n  a c a d e m i c  b o o k s  a b o u t  B e e t h o v e n  –  i n  Y i d d i s h.

B e e t h o v e n  a l s o  w ro t e  w orks  t h a t  t o o k  i n s p i r a t i o n  f r o m  J e w i s h  s o u r c e s .  H i s  s o n g  c y c l e  A n  D i e  F e r n e  G e l i e b t e  s e t s  t o  m u s i c  p o e t r y  b y  G e r m a n - J e w i s h  p o e t  A l o i s  I s i d o r  J e i t t e l e s .  M a n y  a l s o  a r g u e  t h a t  B e e t h o v e n ’ s  S t r i n g  Q u a r t e t  O p .  1 3 1  u s e s  a  m e l o d i c  m o t i f  f r o m  a  t r a d i t i o n a l  K o l  N i d r e  r e c i t a t i o n  m e l o d y .  

J o i n  u s  o n  A p r i l  2 0  ( S E E  L I S T I N G  O N  P A G E  3 )  f o r  a n  e v e n i n g  c e l e b r a t i n g  B e e t h o v e n  i n  t h e  Y i d d i s h  i m a g i n a t i o n  i n c l u d i n g  p e r f o r m a n c e s  o f  t h e s e  w o r k s ,  b i l a n g u a l  r e a d i n g  o f  a  Y i d d i s h  s t o r y  a b o u t  t h e  M o o n l i g h t  S o n a t a ,  a n d ,  o f  c o u r s e ,  O d e  t o  J o y  i n  Y i d d i s h  t r a n s l a t i o n .  P e r f o r m a n c e s  f e a t u r e  A l l e n  L e w i s  R i c k m a n ,  Y e l e n a  S h m u l e n s o n ,  M a r i o  D i a z - M o r e s c o ,  S p e n c e r  M y e r ,  a n d  t h e  U l y s s e s  Q u a r t e t .
RECREATING IMAGES OF THE BREST GHETTO

Some donations to the YIVO Library strike a chord by their moral idea and unique concept. This was the case with Vladimir Gubenko’s *Brest of My Memory: 30s-60s of the XX Century: Author’s Memoirs and Drawings* (Brest, Belarus, 2019. In Russian and English). The book, with its 200 drawings, demonstrates the phenomenal memory of the author, now in his late 80s, who is not Jewish and was a child in the 1940s. His images of the Varburg Jewish neighborhood and the ghetto during WWII are particularly impressive in their details and in his compassionate approach. Gubenko drew with pencil while capturing his non-Jewish friends’ recollections of the ghetto’s destruction. The amateur artist—a physicist by profession—so sharply remembered every building and tree on the streets of his native Brest, that he could easily place the events into the environment of the town. According to Mr. Gubenko’s daughter, Natalie Levine, who donated the book, her father’s drawings often look like scrolls. After finishing one page, he would proceed to the next, and the stories would unveil.

NOAMI LEAF HALPERN AND THE HISTORY OF JEWISH DANCE

The field of Jewish dance history received a major boost with YIVO’s acquisition of the collection of Noami Aleh-Leaf Halpern, whose dance career spanned seven decades. 15 boxes of dance programs, handbills, itineraries, clippings, photographs, correspondence, publications, costumes, and artwork from the 1920s-2014 are being accessioned, with more on the way.

Born in Jerusalem in 1914, Noami came to America as a child with her parents, Reuven Leaf of the Bezalel Institute and Sarah Kantorowitz, a weaver and seamstress. She danced at the Farband’s summer Camp Kindervelt, where her father taught art. She studied with choreographer Michel Fokine and performed in *Ziegfeld Follies* in 1934. A return to Palestine in 1935 inspired her life’s work interpreting Jewish and Near Eastern dance traditions.

During the 1930s-50s, Leaf Halpern toured France, Luxembourg, Belgium, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Israel, Mexico, Cuba, and the U.S. Among her memorabilia is a pristine Yiddish-Flemish program for her January 1938 Antwerp performance at an event promoting YIVO.

Leaf Halpern danced at Fred Berk’s Israeli Dance Festivals in the 1950s, founded and led the Boston-area Festival Dance Company in the 1960s, and became a pioneer within the sacred dance movement. She trained as a dance therapist, taught modern dance, and coached actors into her eighties. The collection will undoubtedly be a new, invaluable resource for exploring nearly a century of Jewish art and cultural life.

THE CHALLENGES OF MULTICULTURALISM IN CONTEMPORARY LITHUANIA

(SEPTEMBER 5) Under the auspices of Litvak Days NYC, YIVO celebrated Lithuanian Jewish heritage with a talk by Professor Tomas Venclova (Yale University, Emeritus). He was then joined by Jonathan Brent (YIVO’s Executive Director), Mindaugas Kvetkauskas (Minister of Culture of Lithuania), Professor Saulius Suziedelis (Millersville University, Emeritus) and Rabbi Andrew Baker (American Jewish Committee, Director of International Jewish Affairs) to discuss the challenges of rebuilding a multicultural society in contemporary Lithuania, confronting the complexities of Lithuanian Jewish history, and taking lessons from it for today. Over 250 people attended.

BUNDISM’S INFLUENCE TODAY

(SEPTEMBER 16) We are witnessing a revival of the ideas of the socialist party the Jewish Labor Bund, a powerful force in Russian and Polish Jewish communities in the first half of the 20th century. Historian Jack Jacobs led a panel with Molly Crabapple, Irena Klepfisz, Jenny Romaine, and Jacob Plitman, activists and cultural workers ranging from their 20s to their 80s. The panelists discussed what they see in Bundist ideas and how those ideas affect their political and cultural practices and influence the Jewish community today. Nearly 450 people of all ages attended; over 1,000 more watched online.

THE BOOK SMUGGLERS [YIVO UK]

(SEPTEMBER 19) The first of several events hosted by YIVO UK this past fall, the book talk for David Fishman’s *The Book Smugglers: Partisans, Poets, and the Race to Save Jewish Treasures from the Nazis* attracted a full house. This book tells the incredible story of the Paper Brigade, the courageous Jews who risked their lives to rescue thousands of rare books and manuscripts—first from the Nazis and then from the Soviets—by hiding them on their bodies, burying them in bunkers in the Vilna Ghetto, and smuggling them across borders. YIVO UK Board Member Lady Hilary Pomeroy gave opening remarks, followed by a talk by author and scholar David Fishman, who discussed his book as well as how the work to rescue Jewish culture and heritage from oblivion continues to this very day at YIVO.

ANTISEMITISM AND THE RUSSIAN REVOLUTION

YIVO IN THE MEDIA

Here are some of YIVO’s media highlights from the last six months:

PUBLIC PROGRAMS, EDUCATION, AND TOURS

**The New Yorker**
Found in Translation
(December 30, 2019)
**TOPIC** ▶ URIEL WEINREICH SUMMER PROGRAM ALUM / YIVO’S HISTORY & ARCHIVES

**Jewish Women’s Archive: Jewish Women, Amplified**
Yiddishes, Alive and Dead
(October 7, 2019)
**TOPIC** ▶ URIEL WEINREICH SUMMER PROGRAM

**The Jewish Chronicle**
Please write this on my tomb: The thing I love most is being a Yid
(August 30, 2019)
**TOPIC** ▶ YIVO ARCHIVES / YIVO HISTORY / 2019 UKRAINIAN JEWISH LITERARY TOUR

**Tablet Magazine**
The ‘Mother’ of Yiddish Literature
(August 28, 2019, mention)
**TOPIC** ▶ THE GREATEST YIDDISH WRITER YOU’VE NEVER HEARD OF: YANKEV DINEZON

**YIVO’S HISTORY AND ARCHIVES**

**Buzzfeed JPG Newsletter**
For Your Eyes Only: History and Hanukkah with YIVO Pictures
(December 22, 2019)
**TOPIC** ▶ YIVO ARCHIVES

**The Covenant Foundation**
Reboot Meets the American Jewish Historical Society: A Creative Shidduch
(December 11, 2019)
**TOPIC** ▶ REBOOT FELLOWSHIP VISIT

**Mashable**
NYC’s YIVO Institute holds Jewish memories saved from destruction during the Holocaust — What's in the Basement?
(November 21, 2019)
**TOPIC** ▶ YIVO ARCHIVES

**Smithsonian Center for Folklife & Cultural Heritage Magazine**
Composing Identity: A History of Yiddish Folksong in Classical Music
(November 1, 2019)
**TOPIC** ▶ YIVO ARCHIVES

**Smithsonian Center for Folklife & Cultural Heritage Magazine**
The Life and Death of a Yiddish Puppet Theater
(October 15, 2019)
**TOPIC** ▶ YIVO ARCHIVES

**Maariv**
הארכיון שחושף את השפה המנומסת יחפושת המזוהים עם כיסויים
(September 7, 2019)
**TOPIC** ▶ THE PAPERS OF NACHMAN BLUMENTAL

**National Endowment for the Humanities**
Documents of Yiddish Life
(Fall 2019)
**TOPIC** ▶ EDWARD BLANK YIVO VILNA ONLINE COLLECTIONS
OUR SUPPORTERS MAKE ALL THE DIFFERENCE

YIVO gratefully acknowledges the following individuals, foundations, corporations, and government agencies for their support in 2019. In addition, we extend our gratitude to all YIVO members, each of whom is critical to our success.

$500,000+
Estate of Evelyn Berezin Wilenitz
Ruth and David Levine
Bruce Slovin

$100,000-$499,999
Anonymous (3)
Atran Foundation, Inc.
Estate of Anita Anna Leyfell
Irene Pletka and The Kronhill Pletka Foundation
Seedlings Foundation

$50,000-$99,999
Anonymous
The Covenant Foundation
Anne E. Leibowitz Fund
Estate of Ethelyn Lieblich
The Shine Trust

$25,000-$49,999
Estate of David S. Brown
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