

Series
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**Jewish Federation
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Foundation**

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17TH ANNUAL
JEWISH
FILM FESTIVAL
OF GRAND RAPIDS

**All Films
presented at
Celebration! Cinema
North**
**Located at the corner
of Knapp Street &
East Beltline,
Grand Rapids, MI**

**Despite our best intentions
and efforts, sometimes
arrangements go awry.
If necessary, we reserve the
right to change or cancel
movies or locations.**

SUNDAY, MAY 3 - THURSDAY MAY 7, 2015



**Celebration!®
Cinema North**

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**HANNA COHEN'S HOLY
COMMUNION**

Sunday, May 3 FAMILY MATINEE -Film 1 1:30 PM

13 min. - Documentary - UK/English

Set in Dublin in the 1970s, this film explores a rarely glimpsed Ireland, as seen through the eyes of spirited seven-year-old Hannah Cohen. Hannah can't wait to make her Holy Communion. The only problem is – she's Jewish! An Irish/Jewish film with an international feel, the beauty of this story lies in its simplicity, humor, and the universal desire to fit in.

HAVANA CURVEBALL

Sunday, May 3 FAMILY MATINEE -Film 2

60 min. - Documentary - USA/English/Spanish

Mica is a typical young teen; enthusiastic, idealistic and dreaming of baseball. At 13, he is studying for his Bar Mitzvah, the Jewish coming-of-age rite. An earnest kid, he takes to heart his rabbi's requirement to help "heal the world". Imagining himself a savior of sorts, he launches a grand plan to send baseballs to Cuba, a country with a mysterious pull. He knows only that Cubans are poor and love baseball, and that Cuba saved his grandpa's life. On a hunch, his award-winning filmmaker parents pick up their camera. They know the U.S. embargo with Cuba, and the complications of growing up, will throw him a curveball.

APPLES FROM THE DESERT

Sunday, May 3 7:30 PM
96 min. - Drama - Israel/Hebrew

This film is about the journey into the secular world of a rebellious teenage daughter of ultra-Orthodox Jewish parents. It is an adaptation of the award-winning Israeli play that poignantly explores themes of love and reconciliation. Nominated for three Israeli Academy Awards, *Apples from the Desert* is a timeless and moving tale of tradition versus modernity. Audience Award Atlanta Jewish Film Festival. Jury Award 2015 San Diego Jewish Film Festival.

I SHALL NOT BE SILENT

Monday, May 4 7:30 PM
57 min. - Documentary - USA/English

This is a film about the power of a voice for justice. In 1930s Berlin, Joachim Prinz was a young rabbi as the Hitler regime was rising to power. Civil rights of Jews were systematically being stripped away and Prinz restored the self-esteem of the German Jews. Expelled from Germany in 1937, Prinz arrived in the United States and was horrified to witness racism against African-Americans. He became a leader of the civil rights movement and spoke at the March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom in 1963.

Guest Speaker : Dr. Glenn R. Plummer, Sr. Pastor of Ambassadors for Christ Church

**24
DAYS**

Tuesday, May 5

108 min. - Drama - USA/English

7:30 PM

Based on real events, this tense thriller captures what some consider a pivotal moment in a new wave of anti-Semitic sentiment and violence sweeping France. The 1986 kidnapping of 24 year-old Ilan Halimi by a suburban Parisian gang of thugs became a cause célèbre because of the anti-Semitic nature of the crime. It's such an important story, with unsettling implications, that the French Ministry of Education decided to show *24 Days* in schools. A top-notch French cast includes Zabou Breitman and Pascal Elbé as Ilan's parents, Jacques Gamblin as the lead police detective, and Sylvie Testud as the negotiator-psychologist.

MR. KAPLAN

Wednesday, May 6

98 min. - Comedy - Uruguay/Spanish

7:30 PM

After fleeing Europe for Uruguay during WWII, Jacob Kaplan built a quiet life. Now 76, he begins to question his worth. After learning of a mysterious German prowling the shores of a nearby beach, he becomes convinced that he's found a Nazi in hiding and plans to expose him. Expertly distilling a potent mixture of emotional depth and deadpan comedy, *Mr. Kaplan* is a vivacious meditation on family, aging, and the drive for significance.

**Thursday, May 7
6:00 PM**

FILM FESTIVAL DINNER

MIDDLE EASTERN DINNER

in the Wave Room

Catered by RAAD'S Mediterranean Grill
Menu: Raad's Salad, Vegetarian Jambalaya, Baba ghanoush, Hummus, Falafel Wrap, Stuffed Grape Leaves, Vegetarian Somosa and Baklava
Adults: \$10.00 - Children (12 and younger): \$5.00

RSVP by May 4th to the Jewish Federation At 942-5553 or Sari@jfgr.org

ABOVE AND BEYOND

Thursday, May 7

87 min. - Documentary with speaker - USA / English

7:30 PM

In 1948, just three years after the liberation of Nazi death camps, a group of Jewish American pilots answered a call for help. In secret and at great personal risk, they smuggled planes out of the U.S., trained behind the Iron Curtain in Czechoslovakia and flew for Israel in its War of Independence. As members of Machal – "volunteers from abroad" – this ragtag band of brothers not only turned the tide of the war; they also embarked on personal journeys of discovery and renewed Jewish pride.

Guest Speaker: Roberta Grossman, Film Director

ADMISSION IS \$6.00 PER FILM. FLEX PASS TICKETS FOR 8 ADMISSIONS ARE \$36.00 EACH

AVAILABLE AT JEWISH FEDERATION OF GRAND RAPIDS • (616) 942-5553

www.jewishgrandrapids.org