

Shanghai Ghetto Screening Makes for Great Bat Mitzvah Project



Trixie Wachsner and Sydney Gross

As Nazi persecution became more prevalent in the late 1930s, a number of Jews fled to a place that seemed illogical but open. Just before the Germans began to systematically kill Jews in large numbers, they found a place of refuge in Shanghai, China.

Inspired by a showing of the movie at her synagogue, Tikvah Group president Helayne Levy suggested that Hadassah Southern California hold a movie night to play *Shanghai Ghetto*, a 2002 movie highlighting the flight of 20,000 Jews to Shanghai after World War II. Another member, Giselle Dunst, suggested that the group get a speaker who is a refugee from the ghetto.


A neighbor who was born in Shanghai referred Giselle to Austrian-born renowned speaker and Life Member Trixie Wachsner. Trixie immigrated to Shanghai during World War II and was forced to move as a stateless refugee to the Hongkew Ghetto. She donated her time to speak to the Hadassah members.

Marge Chirchick got the idea to partner with Gina Raphael, whose daughter, Sydney, was soon to have her Bat Mitzvah. Born in a city near Shanghai, Sydney was searching for a Bat Mitzvah project that connected with Israel and also linked back to China.

Sydney, who speaks Hebrew, Chinese and English, has attended Jewish Day School throughout, and finding ways to connect with Israel are a focus for both her and her family. A life member of Hadassah, Sydney was thrilled to support this event and meet Trixie. The screening became Sydney's Bat Mitzvah project, and she raised more than \$1,000!

Save the Date

THIRD ANNUAL



Jewish Women's Conference

Southern California


Educate.

Empower.

Inspire.

Take a day off for you!

Network, learn, and make a difference with multigenerational Jewish women from all over Southern California.



Announcing Keynote Speaker
Sandra Fluke
LA-Based Attorney and Social Justice Advocate

Sunday, November 3, 2013
UCLA Covel Commons
Los Angeles

www.jwcsc.org 855-850-1818
info@jwcsc.org

PRESENTED BY



reshet
Jewish Women's Network



NCJW
National Council of Jewish Women
Los Angeles Section



HADASSAH
Southern California



N'AMAT USA
Big Sister



Hadassah Southern California Mission

We've loved Israel from afar... now let's journey there together

Join us for the trip of a lifetime coming March 2014.

For more information or to sign up now, call Linda Stillson at 818-585-8017