

2025-2026



**Jewish
Story
Partners**

**Our
Work &
Impact**



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Expanding the Jewish Story.

Mission

Jewish Story Partners stimulates and supports the highest caliber independent documentary films that use fresh, nuanced perspectives to tell stories about the diverse spectrum of Jewish experiences, cultures, and encounters.

Vision

Cinematic storytelling generates empathy, inviting us to see each other across perceived boundaries. Film is also a vital conduit for the free exchange of ideas in a democratic, open, and pluralistic society. With the films it supports, Jewish Story Partners aims to give Jews an opportunity to see themselves and to ignite understanding and spark dialogue among Jews and non-Jews alike.

Jewish Story Partners understands that there is no one monolithic “Jewish People,” or “Judaism.” We are an intersectional, global people—impossible to pigeon-hole. In light of this reality, we uplift a multiplicity of stories to reflect the full range of who we are, who we’ve been, and who we’re becoming.

Our Story

In partnership with Kate Capshaw and Steven Spielberg’s Righteous Persons Foundation, Jewish Story Partners was formed in 2021 to showcase the rich complexity of the Jewish story and fill the critical gap in funding for films on Jewish themes.

Why Jewish Story Partners Now?

Jewish films fight antisemitism, stimulate Jewish connection, generate understanding across divides, and expand the Jewish story. Yet less than 1% of Jewish philanthropy goes to Jewish arts and culture.

Jewish films are an antidote to antisemitism.

Jewish Story Partners films expose audiences to three-dimensional characters and nuanced stories—deactivating flattened stereotypes and replacing harmful propaganda with truth telling. This is all the more crucial in the current moment of rising antisemitism and the growth of white supremacist movements.

Independent Jewish film expands our story.

Jewish Story Partners supports independent films that explore the range and complexity of Jewish experiences, shining a light on underrepresented perspectives, intersectional realities, and the diversity of Jewish lives.

Investing in Jewish film pays dividends in Jewish education and connection.

Jewish film invites Jewish audiences to see themselves reflected on screen, delivering Jewish identity and connection like no other medium. Jewish educators can tap into the power of film to pass our rich inheritance and stories to the next generation.

Independent Jewish film generates understanding across divides.

Roger Ebert famously wrote, “film is a machine that generates empathy.” Giving voice to the full range of Jewish stories through independent film generates empathy and understanding. Jewish voices are indispensable in a pluralistic democracy.

Jewish Story Partners fills a critical gap in funding for Jewish film.

Even the most experienced and acclaimed filmmakers find traditional film funders hesitant to fund films on Jewish subjects. Jewish Story Partners significantly increases the support available for Jewish cinematic storytelling and ensures that there will be a field of independent Jewish filmmaking going forward.

“We are thrilled to have Jewish Story Partners as a valued collaborator on our documentary. From their generous funding, which helped us immensely early on, to their constant encouragement, insightful feedback, and warm supportive community, we are honored to have their seal on the end of our finished film.”

— MOLLY BERNSTEIN AND PHILIP DOLIN, DIRECTORS
ART SPIEGELMAN: DISASTER IS MY MUSE



Programs & Milestones 2021–2025

118
FILMS FUNDED

\$4 Million
GRANTED

1200
SUBMISSIONS REVIEWED

Direct Granting Jury Grants

Jury grants are chosen annually through an open call by a panel of esteemed filmmakers and experts. Past jurors include: Producer Julie Goldman (*The Velvet Underground; Love, Gilda*), Film executive Dylan Leiner (Senior Executive VP, Sony Pictures Classics), Director/Producer Dawn Porter (*Luther: Never Too Much, John Lewis: Good Trouble*), Film financier Jenny Raskin (Executive Director, Impact Partners), and Film curator Kim Yutani (Director of Programming, Sundance Film Festival).

Discretionary Grants

JSP awards small discretionary grants to promising projects at a strategic point in their process.

Reprise Grants

When significant progress has been made on a project which was previously awarded a grant, JSP deepens our investment by making an additional grant.



ABOVE: TORAH TROPICAL



ABOVE: MAINTENANCE ARTIST

550
HOURS OF SUPPORT

50
COMPLETED FILMS

2
OSCAR SHORTLISTED FILMS

153,500
SOCIAL MEDIA ENGAGEMENTS

Continuum of Support Program

In addition to receiving funding, all JSP grantees can opt in to our Continuum of Support program, where we provide expert advisory services—including creative and strategic counsel on story development, financing, production, editing, film festivals, and distribution—according to a project's specific area of need.

Audience Outreach Education-Impact Program

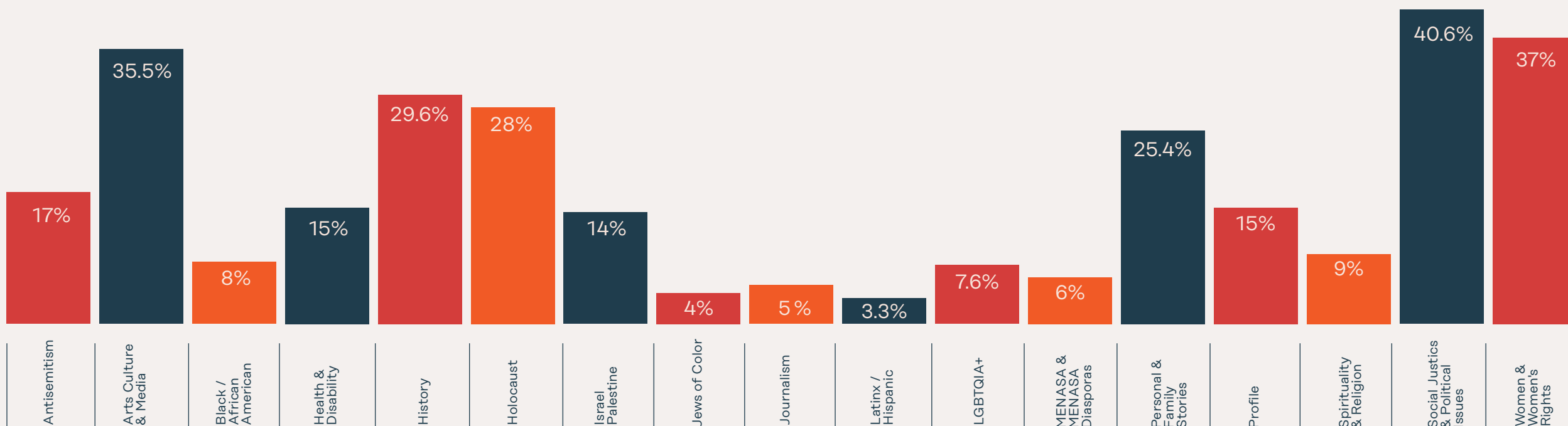
In partnership with distributor Good Docs, we are delivering select JSP projects to a wide range of audiences in educational and community settings. Each year, three JSP-supported films and accompanying discussion guides are provided free of charge to schools, religious institutions, and community groups.

Film Circuit

Jewish Story Partners' Film Circuit connects and inspires Los Angeles's diverse Jewish and non-Jewish communities through documentary film. In 2025–26 JSP is presenting nine screenings of JSP-supported films in collaboration with local temples, museums, and cultural institutions.

118 Films at a Glance

What Are JSP Films About?



Success Stories



GRANTEE CLOSEUP:

Last Flight Home (2022)

Director and Producer Ondi Timoner, Producers David Turner and Jenny Hochberg

“One of the most enlightening and beautiful meditations on mortality in the history of cinema.”

– INDIEWIRE

“Boundlessly humane, amazingly intimate.”

– THE NEW YORK TIMES

In *Last Flight Home*, preeminent documentarian Ondi Timoner chronicles the intentional death of her father. Premiering at the Sundance Film Festival and a host of top festivals including Telluride, Woodstock, and DOC NYC, the film was picked up by MTV Films and Paramount+, shortlisted for the 2023 Academy Award, and nominated for an Emmy Award. It was an inaugural participant in JSP's Education-Impact program with distributor Good Docs, where it continues to bring conversations

about dignity in dying to students and communities nationwide. JSP is proud to have been the first supporter of Timoner's deeply personal film, made on a shoestring, under impossible circumstances during the pandemic.



GRANTEE CLOSEUP:

Four Winters (2022)

Director and Producer Julia Mintz, Producer Dan Sturman

“An enduring warning amid today's global struggle with authoritarian forces.”

– THE NEW YORK TIMES

“A must-see holocaust movie (no, really)...Four Winters is a documentary with suspense, humor, and zero sentimentality.”

– TABLET MAGAZINE

Emmy-nominated director Julia Mintz and Academy Award-winning producer Dan Sturman's *Four Winters* shatters the myth of Jewish passivity in World War II—illuminating the inspiring story of Jewish partisans who fought the Nazis from deep within Eastern Europe forests. A shining example of a Jewish documentary catching fire with audiences, it played 30+ film festivals and won dozens of awards, debuting theatrically at New York's prestigious Film Forum, where it was held over for five weeks, plus an additional nine

weeks at New Plaza Cinema. The team, which is self-distributing the film, has worked tirelessly to organize hundreds of engagement screenings in synagogues, cultural and community centers, and educational institutions. An evergreen conversation-starter, *Four Winters* continues to ignite urgent discussion about Holocaust resistance history at home and abroad.

Success Stories



GRANTEE CLOSEUP:

Sabbath Queen (2024)

Director and Producer Sandi DuBowski

“Sandi DuBowski’s fascinating look at the act of questioning yourself and your family, your surroundings and your decisions.”

– THE NEW YORK TIMES

“Awe-inspiring”

– THE HOLLYWOOD REPORTER

Twenty-one years in the making, Sandi Dubowski's tour de force, *Sabbath Queen*, traces the spiritual evolution of drag queen and maverick conservative rabbi, Amichai Lau-Lavie, as he balances the weight of his family's 38-generation rabbinic legacy with his own vision of himself and his Judaism. The film premiered to rave reviews at the Tribeca Film Festival, was selected as a *New York Times* Critic's Pick, and has since traveled to 65+ film festivals. After sold-out theatrical runs

in 40 arthouse cinemas around the country, an ambitious impact campaign is bringing screenings and rigorous discussions to Jewish and interfaith communities around the world. JSP is proud to be an Executive Producer—having made our largest grant to date—on *Sabbath Queen*.



GRANTEE CLOSEUP:

Holding Liat (2025)

Director Brandon Kramer, Producers Yoni Brook and Lance Kramer

“Emotionally rich, politically thought-provoking... intimate, empathetic... This timely film should find receptive audiences everywhere, and help bring nuance and understanding to a continuing crisis.”

– SCREEN INTERNATIONAL

“The film writes itself into history.”

– DIE ZEIT (GERMANY)

Winner of the prestigious Grand Prize for Best Documentary at the 2025 Berlin International Film Festival, Brandon Kramer's *Holding Liat* chronicles an Israeli-American family who, in the immediate aftermath of October 7th, must face their own conflicting perspectives as they fight for the release of their beloved Liat, held hostage in Gaza. Made in record time and with intimate access, this glowingly reviewed film played widely at film festivals including Tribeca, Hong Kong, Deauville,

and Doc Aviv before its international theatrical release. JSP is proud to have been one of the first supporters of *Holding Liat*, helping the film team respond to the urgency of capturing this vital story as it was unfolding.



50 JSP FILMS Now Playing!

From left to right:

- 999: The Forgotten Girls
- Ada – My Mother the Architect
- Ain't No Back to a Merry-Go-Round
- All God's Children
- All We Carry
- Among Neighbors
- Art Spiegelman: Disaster is My Muse
- The Catskills
- Charm Circle
- Coexistence, My Ass!
- The Conspiracy
- Death & Taxes
- Egypt, A Love Song
- Elie Wiesel: Soul on Fire
- Fiddler's Journey to the Big Screen
- Four Winters
- Hannah Arendt: Facing Tyranny
- Holding Liat
- Janis Ian: Breaking Silence
- Jews by Choice
- Know Hope
- Last Flight Home
- The Last Spy
- A Letter to David
- Looking for Yadida
- Maintenance Artist
- Marlee Matlin: Not Alone Anymore
- Monk in Pieces
- My Name is Andrea
- My Underground Mother
- My Undesirable Friends: PT 1 – Last Air in Moscow
- Nathan-ism
- A Photographic Memory
- Plunderer
- A Pocketful of Miracles: A Tale of Two Siblings
- Queen of the Deuce
- Red Herring
- Resistance: They Fought Back
- The Ride Ahead
- Sabbath Queen
- The Stamp Thief
- Steal This Story, Please!
- A Still Small Voice
- This World Is Not My Own
- Torah Tropical
- A Tree of Life
- Turbulence
- Under G-d
- Walk With Me
- The Wild One

JSP Films Reaching Audiences 2021–2025

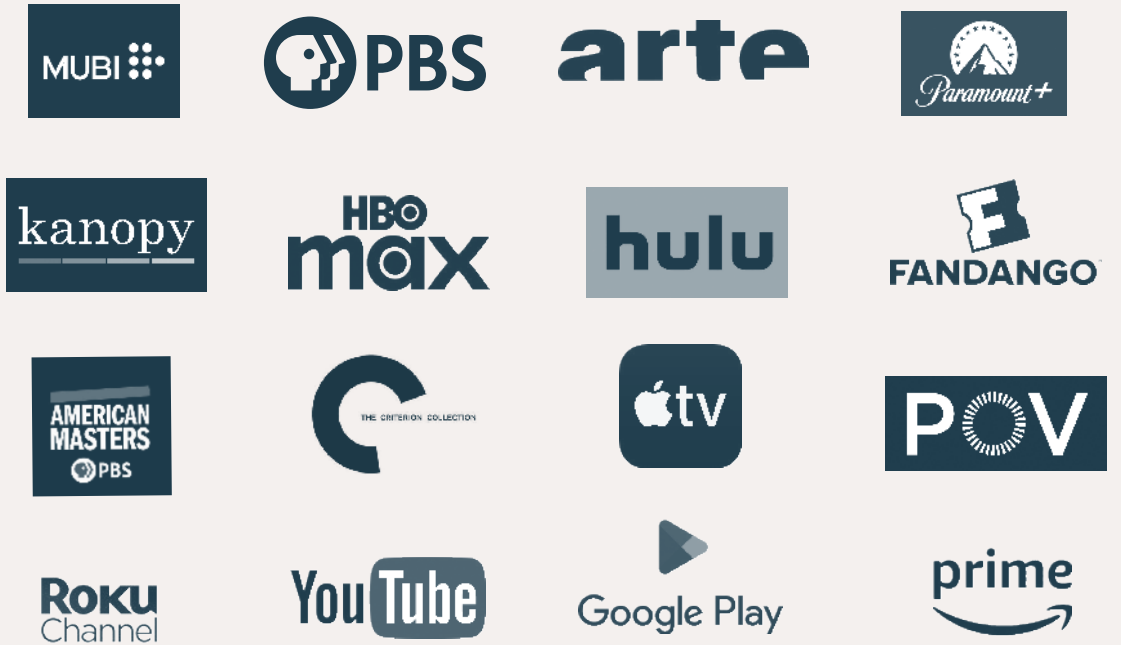
JSP Films at Top Film Festivals



Other Prestigious Festivals Where JSP Films Have Screened



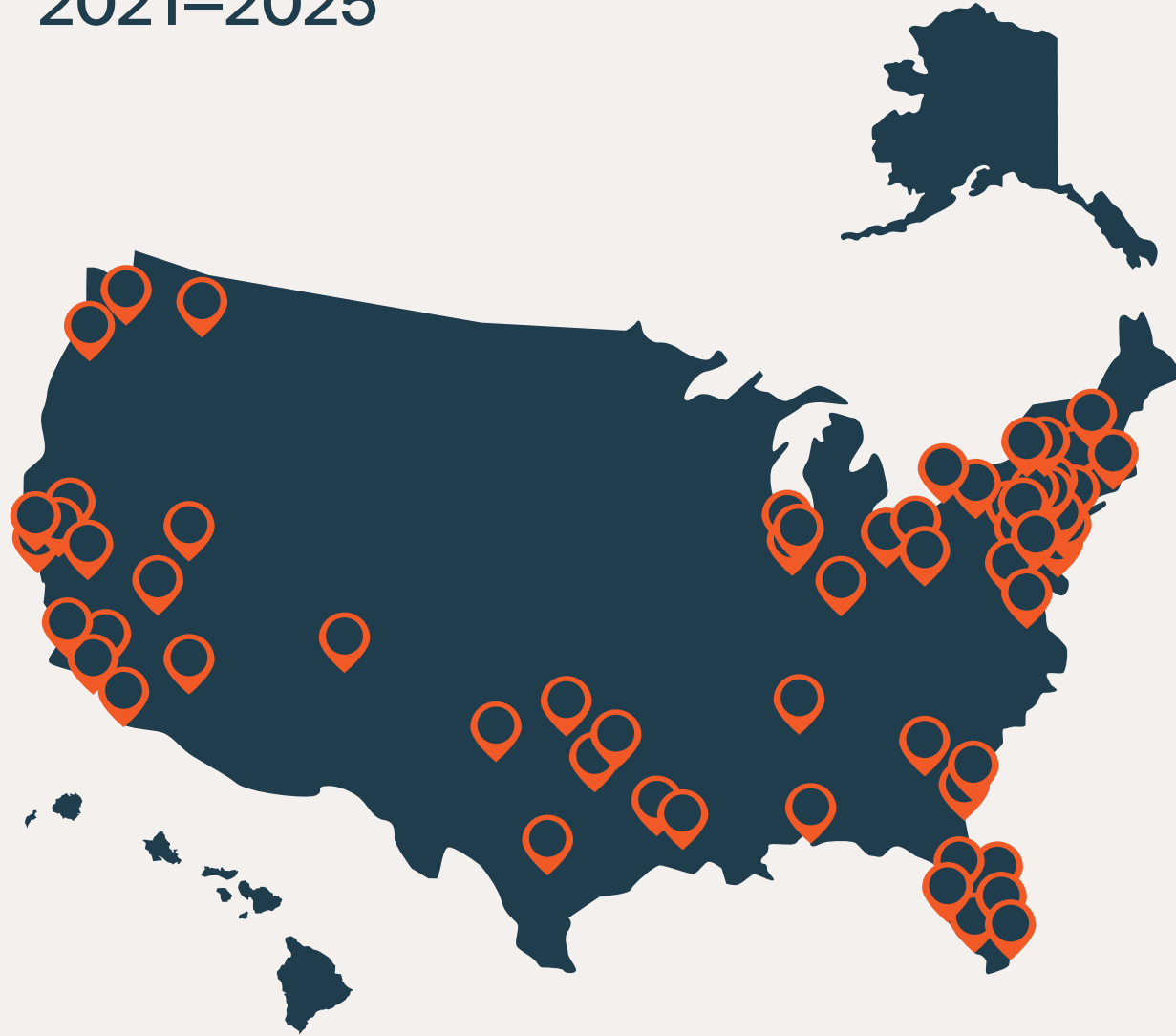
Streamers & Broadcasters Where JSP Films Have Played



Visit our Now Playing page to find out where you can watch JSP films.



JSP Films Reaching Audiences 2021–2025



Number of JSP Films at Jewish Film Festivals in Cities Around the World:

UNITED STATES

Albuquerque, NM – 1
Aptos, CA – 2
Atlanta, GA – 14
Austin, TX – 2
Bedford, NH – 1
Boca Raton, FL – 7
Boston, MA – 10
Boulder, CO – 1
Buffalo, NY – 2
Champaign–Urbana, IL – 1
Charleston, SC – 1
Cherry Hill, NJ – 1
Chicago, IL – 5
Cincinnati, OH – 2
Cleveland, OH – 8
Columbus, OH – 3

Cupertino, CA – 2
Dallas, TX – 2
Detroit, MI – 2
Great Barrington, MA – 6
Harrisburg, PA – 2
Houston, TX – 2
Lewes, DE – 1
Las Vegas, NV – 1
Los Angeles, CA – 1
Maitland, FL – 1
Memphis, TN – 1
Miami, FL – 19
Mobile, AL – 1
Naples, FL – 1
Nashville, TN – 3
New Brunswick, NJ – 3
New York, NY – 10

Palm Beach, FL – 3
Palm Springs, CA – 1
Philadelphia, PA – 2
Pittsburgh, PA – 7
Pleasant Hill, CA – 3
Pleasantville, NY – 1
Portland, ME – 7
Portland, OR – 4
Rochester, NY – 6
Sacramento, CA – 6
San Diego, CA – 7
San Francisco, CA – 28
Santa Barbara, CA – 1
Santa Fe, NM – 1
Sarasota, FL – 5
Savannah, GA – 1
Scotch Plains, NJ – 1

Scottsdale, AZ – 5
Seattle, WA – 5
Shreveport, LA – 1
South Bend, IN – 3
Spokane, WA – 1
Springfield, MA – 3
Tucson, AZ – 1
Tulsa, OK – 1
Vineyard Haven, MA – 2
Washington, DC – 10
West Hartford, CT – 6
West Nyack, NY – 4
West Orange, NJ – 3
Wilmington, NC – 1
Worcester, MA – 1
Youngstown, OH – 1

INTERNATIONAL

Australia (multi-city tour) – 8
Berlin, Germany – 7
Bucharest, Romania – 2
Budapest, Hungary – 2
Geneva, Switzerland – 1
Jerusalem, Israel – 1
London, England – 11
Milan, Italy – 1
Moscow, Russia – 1
Oslo, Norway – 1
Sao Paulo, Brazil – 1
Warsaw, Poland – 3

CANADA

Calgary, Canada – 1
Toronto, Canada – 10
Vancouver, Canada – 4
Victoria, Canada – 1
Windsor, Canada – 1



JSP Board Members: Victoria Cook, Dan Cogan, Nancy Spielberg, Wendy Cohen, Ginna Green



JSP Film Circuit Screening

Giving Opportunities

"I invest in JSP because films have the power to distill stereotypes or completely upend them ... I am so very proud to support an organization that is broadening the Jewish stories we see on screen."

—STEPHANIE DEVAAN, JSP SUPPORTER

"At a time when stereotypes are rampant, Righteous Persons Foundation believes that investing in Jewish documentaries is more important than ever. Jewish Story Partners utilizes the power of film to ensure the Jewish community can be seen in all its complexity and humanity."

— SHAYNA ROSE TRIEBWASSER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, RIGHTEOUS PERSONS FOUNDATION

Your support helps us expand the Jewish story. Jewish Story Partners offers the following ways to direct your gift:

General Operating Support

Support JSP's film granting and operations by making an unrestricted gift.

Holocaust Film Fund

Direct your gift to preserving stories of the Holocaust, which make up approximately 30% of JSP's annual slate.

Antisemitism Film Fund

Direct your gift to JSP documentaries exploring antisemitism as well as those that probe the connections between antisemitism and other group-based hate.

Education-Impact

Invest in Jewish education for diverse audiences by helping us underwrite free screenings of JSP-funded films to a wide array of Jewish and non-Jewish community and educational groups.

Continuum of Support

Contribute to the success of JSP projects by directing your gift toward the cost of one-on-one advisory support for our grantees.

Board of Directors

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DIRECTOR, STRATEGIC INITIATIVES AND PROGRAMMING,
UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM

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Ginna Green

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Lynn Kroll

COMMUNITY LEADER AND PHILANTHROPIST

Sarah Abrevaya Stein

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VITERBI CHAIR IN MEDITERRANEAN JEWISH STUDIES, UCLA

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Roberta Grossman

CO-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

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DIRECTOR OF DEVELOPMENT

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MANAGER, PUBLIC SCREENINGS AND EVENTS

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Ana Keener

OPERATIONS AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANT

Caroline Libresco

CO-FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT

Lindsay Malin

ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR, FILM GRANTING AND ARTIST PROGRAMS

Harry Vaughn

PROGRAM CONSULTANT

Gary Starr

DIRECTOR OF FINANCE AND OPERATIONS

Leadership



Roberta Grossman

CO-FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

An award-winning filmmaker, Roberta Grossman is a member of the Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Sciences and the Writers Guild of America. She has written, directed, and produced more than 50 hours of film and television. Grossman released *Who Will Write Our History* in 2018. Also in 2018, Grossman co-directed and produced the Netflix Original Documentary *Seeing Allred*, about women's rights attorney Gloria Allred. *Seeing Allred* premiered in competition at the 2018 Sundance Film Festival. In 2014, Grossman directed *Above and Beyond* for producer Nancy Spielberg. Grossman's 2012 *Hava Nagila (The Movie)* was the opening or closing night film at more than 30 film festivals. *Blessed Is the Match: The Life and Death of Hannah Senesh*, Grossman's 2008 film, was shortlisted for an Academy Award and aired on PBS/Independent Lens. Grossman produced the recently released *Vishniac (2024)*, *Dorothea Lange: Grab a Hunk of Lightning*, and was the series producer and co-writer of *500 Nations*, the eight-hour CBS series on Native Americans hosted by Kevin Costner. Her film *Homeland: Four Portraits of Native Action* aired on PBS in 2005. Grossman received the Taube Jewish Peoplehood Award in 2020. The award honors Jewish men and women who have worked to foster pride in Jewish identity and heritage for new generations. Most recently, Grossman wrote, produced, and directed a series of films for the new Lost Shtetl Museum in Lithuania.



Caroline Libresco

CO-FOUNDER AND PRINCIPAL CONSULTANT

Caroline Libresco is a leading film curator, producer, program designer, and creative executive fueled by the belief that a thriving independent film and media sector is a critical pillar of a pluralistic democracy. In 2019 she wrapped 18 years as one of the head programmers at the Sundance Film Festival. She also created the Sundance Women's Program and Sundance Catalyst, where she built a community of 100+ investors, raising \$32 million for 89 films, including *Truffle Hunters*, *Crip Camp*, *Won't You Be My Neighbor*, and *The Witch*. Prior to this she was an executive at ITVS and the San Francisco Film Festival. An active producer, Caroline's credits include Sundance 2023 entry *Food and Country* (producer/story producer); SXSW 2025 grand prize-winner *Shuffle* (consulting producer); HBO's *The Power of Story* (consulting producer); AMC's *Our American Family* (executive producer); Netflix Original *Disclosure* (executive producer); Peabody-winner *American Revolutionary: The Evolution of Grace Lee Boggs* (producer); and Tribeca Jury Prize-winner *Sunset Story* (producer). A frequent moderator, artist interviewer, and panelist, Caroline has juried dozens of film festivals, including CPH:Dox, HotDocs, IDFA, Jerusalem, and Seattle. She consults on story and pitching to filmmakers and provides strategic and curatorial counsel to organizations and investors. A nine-year board member of IDA and an AMPAS member, she holds an MFA from UCLA Film School, an MA in history of religion from Harvard Divinity School, and a BA from Oberlin College.



“JSP saw the potential of our film before anyone else. Not only did they fund the first phase of production, but they gave us a Reprise grant when we needed it most. They provided invaluable feedback on the rough cut and continue to advise us on festivals, distribution, and beyond.”

— BILLY SHEBAR, DIRECTOR
MONK IN PIECES

Our Supporters

We are grateful for the generous support of our donors who have made Jewish Story Partners' work possible. They are acknowledged below for their cumulative support:

\$1,000,000 and Above

Kate Capshaw and Steven Spielberg's Righteous Persons Foundation *

Klarman Family Foundation

Maimonides Fund *

\$250,000 and Above

Jim Joseph Foundation

Koret Foundation

Lynn and Jules Kroll Fund for Jewish Documentary Films

Kronhill Pletka Foundation

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The Diane and Guilford Glazer Foundation

Hartman Family Foundation

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\$25,000 and Above

Anonymous (2)

ATL Jewish Film

Jennifer and Grant Dinner

Adam Irving

Jewish Community Foundation of Los Angeles

Susan Bay Nimoy

Julie Platt

Chara Schreyer

Marcy Syms

Taube Philanthropies

Laurie M. Tisch Illumination Fund

Twin Oak Fund

\$10,000 and Above

Anonymous (2)

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Lisa and Joshua Greer

Jodi Harris

Lisa and Josh Hofheimer

The Snider Foundation

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For program inquiries:
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