

THE GROSS FAMILY CENTER
FOR THE STUDY OF
ANTISEMITISM AND THE HOLOCAUST
2025-2026 SPEAKER SERIES



**THE GROSS FAMILY CENTER
FOR THE STUDY OF
ANTISEMITISM AND THE HOLOCAUST**

SPECIAL PANEL DISCUSSION

**KAROL MARKOWICZ
DAVID REABOI
JORDAN SCHACHTEL**

**Israel:
The New Paradigm**

Sunday, December 14, 2025 - 11 a.m.

**Florida Atlantic University,
Boca Raton, Florida
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute**

In 2025, Israel emerged as the Middle East's strong horse, with its decisive victories against Iran and its terrorist proxy groups cementing its regional position. Jordan Schachtel, Karol Markowicz, and David Reaboi examine Israel's bold path in security, technology, and regional influence amidst new opportunities and challenges in the year ahead.



THE GROSS FAMILY CENTER FOR THE STUDY OF ANTISEMITISM AND THE HOLOCAUST

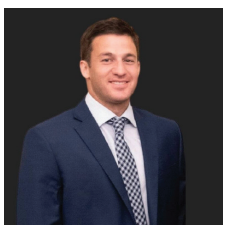
SPECIAL PANEL DISCUSSION



Karol Markowicz is a columnist for the *New York Post* and *Fox News*, a contributing editor at *The Spectator*, and a contributing writer for the *Washington Examiner*. Born in the Soviet Union and raised in Brooklyn, she now lives in Florida with her husband and three children. Karol speaks of her journey as a toddler, how her parents were able to escape the Soviet Union as Jews in the late 1970's, and how she never takes for granted her religious freedom in this country. She is the co-author of the bestselling book *Stolen Youth: How Radicals Are Erasing Innocence and Indoctrinating a Generation* and hosts *The Karol Markowicz Show*.



David Reaboi is a national security and political warfare expert. He writes at *Late Republic Nonsense* on Substack and has contributed to outlets like *The Federalist*, *National Review*, *Claremont Review of Books*, and *Arab News*. Previously, he launched Big Peace for Andrew Breitbart in 2010, served as Vice President for Strategic Communications at the Center for Security Policy, and was a Claremont Institute Lincoln Fellow. Reaboi, who grew up in New Jersey and lives in Miami Beach, holds a BA in International Affairs from George Washington University, with a focus on Cold War history.



Jordan Schachtel is an investigative journalist and foreign policy analyst known for his work on national security, international relations, and public policy. He is a contractor with the Republican Party of Florida and publishes *The Dossier* on Substack. Originally from New Jersey, Schachtel served as a volunteer firefighter while attending Monmouth University. He later studied international relations at the Institute of World Politics in Washington, D.C., before relocating to Florida in 2020. His writing has appeared in outlets like *The Federalist*, *Breitbart News*, *Blaze Media*, *Al Arabiya* and *USA Today*. He has appeared on *Fox Business* and spoken at the EU as well as at the North American Bitcoin Conferences in Miami and Las Vegas.

Program Schedule

Israel and Civilization: The Fate of the Jewish Nation and the Destiny of the West

Sunday, November 9, 2025 - 11 a.m.

Speaker: Josh Hammer

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Countering Antisemitism in Contemporary Medicine: The Path Forward and Why It Matters to You!

Sunday, November 16, 2025 - 11 a.m.

Speaker: Dr. Hedy Wald

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

On Both Sides of the Wall:

A Resistance Fighter's Firsthand Account of the Warsaw Ghetto

Monday, December 1, 2025 - 1 p.m.

**Introduction by Dr. Sam Kassow,
in conversation with Steven Meed**

In Collaboration with YIVO

Presentation available ONLY on Zoom as
lecture is LIVE in New York

Holding Sponsors of Terror Legally Accountable

Sunday, December 7, 2025 - 11 a.m.

Speaker: Richard D. Heideman, Esq.

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Israel: The New Paradigm

Sunday, December 14, 2025 - 11 a.m.

**Panel Speakers: Karol Markowicz, David Reaboi,
and Jordan Schachtel**

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

A Fateful Triumvirate : The Prime Minister, the Ayatollah and the President

Sunday, January 11, 2026 - 11 a.m.

Speaker: Dr. Stephen Berk

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida

Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Program Schedule

Louis Vuitton, Coco Chanel and John Weitz: Nazi Couture Collaborators and a Case Study in Resistance

Sunday, January 25, 2026 - 11 a.m.

Speaker: Uwe Westphal

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Not Simply a Matter of Faith, but a Matter of Fact: How a Busted Sewage Pipe Saved Jerusalem

Sunday, February 1, 2026 - 11 a.m.

Speaker: Ze'ev Orenstein

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Where is the US - Israel Relationship Headed?

Sunday, February 22, 2026 - 11 a.m.

Speaker: Dr. Eric Mandel

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

The 4000 Year Jewish Journey: From Ur To Israel

Monday, February 23, 2026 - 7 p.m.

Speaker: Dr. Irving Berkowitz

Chabad of Palm Beach Gardens

Operation Lion Rising: A Case Study of Israeli Military Genius

Sunday, March 1, 2026 - 11 a.m.

Speaker: Dr. Walid Phares

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Israel Ascendant: The Jewish Homeland Emerges from the Ring of Fire

Sunday, March 8, 2026 - 11 a.m.

Speaker: Brigadier General Res. Amir Avivi

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

Why Have Jewish Organizations Been Wrong About Everything While ZOA Has Been Right?

Sunday, March 22, 2026 - 11 a.m.

Speaker: Mort Klein

Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, Florida
Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

About the Speakers

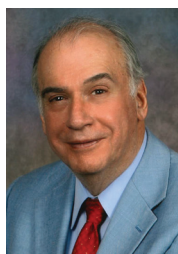


**BRIGADIER GENERAL RES.
AMIR AVIVI**

**Israel Ascendant: The Jewish
Homeland Emerges from the Ring
of Fire**

Sunday, March 8, 2026

Amir Avivi is the Chairman of IDSF (Israel's Defense and Security Forum) which he founded in 2020. IDSF is comprised of more than 28,000 reserve and retired officers, commanders and operators from all branches of the Israeli Security Establishment. IDSF promotes the national security of the State of Israel to ensure its existence and prosperity for generations to come. Avivi retired from the IDF in 2017 and has more than 30 years of military, counter-terrorism, and national defense experience.



DR. STEPHEN BERK

**A Fateful Triumvirate: The Prime
Minister, the Ayatollah and
the President**

Sunday, January 11, 2026

Dr. Berk is an award-winning Professor of Holocaust and Jewish Studies at Union College. He has earned an international reputation for his teaching, writing and research on Russian and Soviet Jewish history, the American Jewish experience and antisemitism. He teaches a variety of history courses at Union; directs the college's interdepartmental program in Russian and Eastern European Studies; and is an advisor to the on campus Hillel.



DR. IRVING BERKOWITZ

**4000 year Jewish Journey:
From Ur To Israel**

Monday, February 23, 2026

The son of Holocaust survivors, Dr. Irving Berkowitz is a widely respected scholar and public speaker on the Holocaust and contemporary antisemitism. He served as Dean of Academic Affairs at Palm Beach State College for more than a decade. He recently completed a fellowship as Scholar in Residence at Oxford University's Institute for the Study of Global Antisemitism and Policy. Dr. Berkowitz has received numerous commendations, including the 2019 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Distinguished Leadership Award, for his lifetime of scholarship, advocacy and service in relation to racism, antisemitism, hatred and discrimination.

About the Speakers



JOSH HAMMER

Israel and Civilization: The Fate of the Jewish Nation and the Destiny of the West

Sunday, November 9, 2025

Josh is Newsweek's senior-editor-at-large, syndicated columnist, host of "The Josh Hammer Show", a Newsweek podcast, a syndicated radio show, and author of

Israel and Civilization: The Fate of the Jewish Nation and the Destiny of the West.



RICHARD D. HEIDEMAN, ESQ.

Holding Sponsors of Terror Legally Accountable

Sunday, December 7, 2025

Richard D. Heideman is Senior Counsel of the Washington DC law firm, Heideman Nudelman and Kalik, which is committed to holding sponsors of terror legally accountable and which represents American victims of terrorist actions against Libya, Syria, the Islamic Republic of Iran, the Palestine Liberation Organization, Arab Bank plc and other banks it has accused of funding terror. Richard is also the founding Chairman of The Israel Forever Foundation. He served 2 terms as President of B'nai Brith International, and was the Chairman of the US Holocaust Memorial Museum Lawyers Committee. Heideman led a plethora of other critical endeavors including as past president of the American Zionist Movement.



DR. SAMUEL KASSOW

On Both Sides of the Wall: A Resistance Fighter's Firsthand Account of the Warsaw Ghetto

Monday, December 1, 2025

Dr. Samuel Kassow, a child of Holocaust survivors and born in a displaced-persons camp, is the Charles H. Northam Professor of History at Trinity College, a Fellow of the American Academy of Jewish Research, lead historian for two galleries of the POLIN Museum in Warsaw, and author of *Who Will Write Our History?*, an award-winning book translated into eight languages.

About the Speakers



MORT KLEIN

**Why Have Jewish Organizations
Been Wrong About Everything
While ZOA Has Been Right?**

Sunday, March 22, 2026

Mr. Klein is the leader of the oldest pro-Israel organization in the U.S., fighting for the safety and security of Israel, against antisemitism, for the rights and interests of the Jewish people. Mr. Klein tackles these topics with uncompromising truth and clarity.



DR. ERIC MANDEL

**Where is the US-Israel
Relationship Headed?**

Sunday, February 22, 2026

Dr. Eric Mandel is the director of MEPIN, the Middle East Political Information Network, and the Senior Security Editor for the Jerusalem Report. He writes for The Hill, the Jerusalem Post, JNS, i24TV and regularly briefs members of Congress and the State Department. Since October 7, he has been on the frontlines with the IDF many times and was a firsthand witness to the massacre in Sderot.



KAROL MARKOWICZ

Israel: The New Paradigm

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Karol Markowicz is a columnist for the *New York Post* and *Fox News*, a contributing editor at *The Spectator*, and a contributing writer for the *Washington Examiner*. Born in the Soviet Union and raised in Brooklyn, she now lives in Florida with her husband and three children. Karol speaks of her journey as a toddler, how her parents were able to escape the Soviet Union as Jews in the late 1970's, and how she never takes for granted her religious freedom in this country. She is the co-author of the bestselling book *Stolen Youth: How Radicals Are Erasing Innocence and Indoctrinating a Generation* and hosts *The Karol Markowicz Show*.

About the Speakers

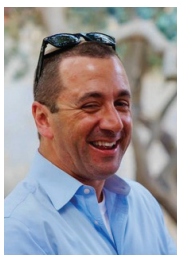


STEVEN D. MEED

***On Both Sides of the Wall:
A Resistance Fighter's Firsthand
Account of the Warsaw Ghetto***

Monday, December 1, 2025

Steven is the founder of the Second-Generation group in New York City, where he has spoken widely on his parents' experiences in the Warsaw Ghetto. Steven's mother, Vladka Meed served in the Jewish underground in the Warsaw Ghetto by passing as a Christian outside its walls, which is detailed in her memoir, *On Both Sides of the Wall*, one of the first eyewitness accounts of the Holocaust. She remained extremely active in Holocaust education and memorialization until her death in 2012.



ZE'EV ORENSTEIN

***Not Simply a Matter of Faith, but
a Matter of Fact: How a Busted
Sewage Pipe Saved Jerusalem***

Sunday, February 1, 2026

Serving as the Director of International Affairs at the City of David Foundation in Jerusalem, Ze'ev Orenstein plays a key role in fostering global partnerships, strengthening Israel's connection with international stakeholders, and sharing the story of ancient Jerusalem with the world. Ze'ev regularly briefs members of U.S. Congress, international diplomats, journalists and thought leaders on the historical, spiritual and political significance of Jerusalem. Through his work in the City of David, Ze'ev is bringing Jerusalem to the world, and the world to Jerusalem.

About the Speakers



DR. WALID PHARES

Operation Lion Rising: A Case Study of Israeli Military Genius

Sunday, March 1, 2026

Dr. Walid Phares is an American political scientist, author, and advisor. He served as Foreign Policy advisor to President Donald Trump and as senior National Security advisor to Presidential candidate

Mitt Romney. He joins *Fox News* and *Fox Business* regularly as the network's Foreign Policy and National Security expert and frequently appears on national and international media. He is the Co-Secretary General of the Transatlantic Parliamentary Group, a transatlantic caucus of members of the U.S. Congress and the European Parliament. The objective of the caucus is to assess international security threats, economic crises, and social issues and recommend strategies and policies to the government of the United States and governments of members of the European Union. Dr. Phares briefs and testifies to U.S. Congress, the European Parliament and the United Nations Security Council on matters related to international security, democracy, and Middle East conflicts.



DAVID REABOI

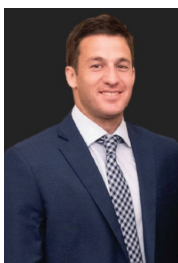
Israel: The New Paradigm

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About the Speakers



JORDAN SCHACHTEL

Israel: The New Paradigm

Sunday, December 14, 2025

Jordan Schachtel is an investigative journalist and foreign policy analyst known for his work on national security, international relations, and public policy. He is a contractor with the Republican Party of Florida and publishes *The Dossier* on Substack. Originally from New Jersey,

Schachtel served as a volunteer firefighter while attending Monmouth University. He later studied international relations at the Institute of World Politics in Washington, D.C., before relocating to Florida in 2020. His writing has appeared in outlets like *The Federalist*, *Breitbart News*, *Blaze Media* and *Al Arabiya*. He has appeared on *Fox Business* and spoken at the EU as well as at the North American Bitcoin Conferences in Miami and Las Vegas.



DR. HEDY WALD

Countering Antisemitism in

Contemporary Medicine: The Path Forward and Why It Matters to You!

Sunday, November 16, 2025

Dr. Hedy Wald is Clinical Professor of Family Medicine at the Alpert Medical School of Brown University. She is

also the Commissioner of the Lancet Commission on Medicine, Nazism, and the Holocaust. A Gold Humanism Foundation Harvard Macy Scholar, she is also the recipient of Dean's Teaching awards and a Fulbright Specialist Scholar in medical education for Ben Gurion University of Health Sciences.



UWE WESTPHAL

Louis Vuitton, Coco Chanel

and John Weitz: Nazi Couture

Collaborators and a Case Study in Resistance

Sunday, January 25, 2026

Uwe Westphal's focus as a writer and journalist has been the Nazi era and its persecution of the Jews. He devoted his

master's studies at Berlin's University of Arts to the fashion industry in pre-Nazi Berlin and the huge Jewish presence in making Berlin one of the world's fashion capitals and the origin of prêt-à-porter, or ready to wear clothes. His research and writings have shed light on the Nazi destruction of thousands of Jewish-owned textile and fashion enterprises in the German capital.

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The Camp at Majdanek, Poland



Source: The State Museum at Majdanek. © Used with Permission

The mound with ashes of 78,000 Jewish victims of the German concentration camp, located in the Mausoleum. In 1969, the ashes of Majdanek's victims were placed in this Mausoleum. On the frieze of its dome, the creator of the monument, Wiktor Tolkin, engraved the message:

**“LET OUR FATE BE
A WARNING TO YOU.”**

This Distinguished Speaker Series
– **free and open to the public** – features prominent and international experts, connecting community members to critical aspects of the Jewish experience, including the surge of antisemitism, the history of the Holocaust and, the safety and security of the State of Israel.

Presented by The Gross Family Center for the Study of Antisemitism and the Holocaust, a program of the Gayle and Paul Gross Family Foundation.