JEWISH WEDDINGS THROUGH THE AGES: A FASHION SHOW

CATEGORY
Living

INTRODUCTION
This is a dramatic and fun way to look at history, sociology, fashion, and music.

DESCRIPTION/PROCEDURE
A script takes participants from the Garden of Eden to the present day with an overview of the changes in wedding traditions. The rabbi and cantor officiate. They have people bring in a number of chuppot that some families made themselves and used at their own weddings. The brides and bridesmaids model wedding attire from various eras and walked down the aisle to different modes of music from various time periods. Even featured a matchmaker.

This program resulted in amazing participation, standing room only in the synagogue

COMMENTS
This program was created by the sisterhood of Etz Chayim, Winnipeg, Manitoba
A TASTE OF HONEY

CATEGORY
Living

INTRODUCTION
This is a lovely and tasty way to introduce the fall holidays

DESCRIPTION/PROCEDURE
Invite a beekeeper or honey specialist to speak about how honey is produced

Invite members to bring one recipe featuring honey

Include a honey tasting

Discuss the connection of honey to Rosh Hashanah

Craft project: create honey dishes

BUDGET
Speaker, honeys for tasting (try to get them donated)

MATERIALS
Refer to The Women’s League Hiddur Mitzvah Project section on apple and honey dishes and the use of honey at Rosh Hashanah (pages 10 and 11).

COMMENTS
This program was created by the sisterhood of Kehilat Shalom in Gaithersburg, Maryland
JEWHWOMEN GO CAPITAL

CATEGORY
Linking

INTRODUCTION
This is particularly appropriate for communities near a state capital. Several sisterhoods in an area can collaborate.

DESCRIPTION/PROCEDURE
Plan a day visiting the state capital, visit with local legislators, and be prepared to discuss state and local issues that are of concern for the Jewish community.

BUDGET
Buses, lunch, publicity including ad in the local Jewish paper

MATERIALS
Position papers
Copy of pertinent Women's League resolutions (see website)

COMMENTS
This program was created by the sisterhood of Congregation Adath Jeshurun, Minnetonka, Minnesota
MIRIAM’S FESTIVAL

CATEGORY
Learning

INTRODUCTION
A day offering different activities and learning experiences prior to the celebration of Pesach

DESCRIPTION/PROCEDURE
Include in the day’s activities:

• Create your own handmade/hand-stamped Jewish-themed place cards for the seder table
• Create Pesach desserts with a visiting chef or caterer
• Sample several types of charoset from around the world
• Study the use of the mikveh for Pesach preparations. If a mikveh is nearby, tour it

Invite participants to send in a favorite Pesach recipe. Compile a cookbook or recipe cards to give out

BUDGET
Chef/caterer expenses
Printing cookbook
Food supplies
Crafts materials
Paper goods

MATERIALS
Paper goods
Food supplies
Crafts materials

COMMENTS
This project was created by sisterhood of Beth Meyer Synagogue, Raleigh, North Carolina
Some interesting program topics – almost self-explanatory – culled from the 2012 Jewels in the Crown Award applications. Use your imagination (together with your creative programming team) to develop one of these into an interesting program and then share the results with Women's League.

SOUPS AND SPICES: HOW SPICES MAKE THE SOUP

The historical connection between Jews and spices; issues of kashrut and spices

*Adath Israel Sisterhood, Cincinnati, Ohio*

DE-CLUTTER YOUR LIFE

Instruction and ideas from a professional organizer

*Sisterhood of B’nai Israel Congregation, Rockville, Maryland*

MEDICINE IN THE TALMUD

*Sisterhood of First Hebrew Congregation, Peekskill, New York*

JEWISH SUPERSTITIONS

This should have you falling on the floor, laughing

*Sisterhood of Morristown Jewish Center Beit Yisrael, Morristown, New Jersey*

HOLISTIC HEALING

Invite a local chiropractor for some easy to follow home activities and remedies

*Sisterhood of Congregation B’nai Shalom, West Orange, New Jersey*

HOW TO WORK WITH ANYONE

Invite a life coach or management speaker to talk about different personality types (leader, task-oriented, people-person) and give tips about how to use that knowledge in the workplace or your sisterhood

*Sisterhood of Congregation Kol Ami, Tampa, Florida*

FROM FARM TO FORK

Organic farmer or merchant can discuss the ins and outs of organic gardening and sustainability.

*Sisterhood of Congregation B’nai Torah, Atlanta, Georgia*

EVERYTHING YOU WANT TO KNOW ABOUT DIABETES

Invite a diabetes expert (an internist or endocrinologist; nutritionist, etc.) to talk about living with this disease

*Sisterhood of Shomrei Torah Synagogue, West Hills, California*

COLLECTING JUDAICA IN THE 21ST CENTURY: BUYERS BEWARE!

Invite a collector, owner of a Judaica shop and/or artist to discuss quality and authenticity in collecting Judaica

*Sisterhood of Temple Emeth, Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts*

TEA AND ‘TINIS’

Wear hats and gloves, eat finger sandwiches and drink martinis - watch a fun ‘manners’ movie

*Women’s League of Congregation B’nai Israel, St. Petersburg, Florida*