



WRJ Northeast District Convention 2018

Workshop Descriptions

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2018

9:00–10:15 A.M. WORKSHOP SERIES I

- 1. Using Social Media to Get Your Message Out - Carol Chaykin, WRJ Northeast District Area Director, WRJ Board Member; and Alissa Woska, WRJ Northeast District Eblast & Facebook Co-Chair** - Want to know how to make social media work for you? We will discuss using webpages, email/newsletters, Facebook, Twitter and more, and show you how to make it work for your sisterhood.
- 2. Can You Hear Me? Are You Listening? - Rabbi Marla Feldman, WRJ Executive Director; and Sara Charney, WRJ First Vice President** - Addressing the needs of today's women requires paying attention and active listening. Conducting a listening campaign for your sisterhood can be an effective way to learn about the women in your community, engage new women and remain receptive to their needs. The goal of this workshop is to teach participants how to run a listening campaign and to take it home to their women's group.
- 3. A Trip Around the World Without Leaving Home: WRJ and World Jewry - Jane Taves, WRJ Vice President of Advocacy and Marketing & Communications** - As Women of Reform Judaism, we are very familiar with Reform Judaism in North America. But how much do you know about Reform/Progressive Jewish communities around the globe? WRJ and the World Union for Progressive Judaism have a long, rich partnership nurturing Reform/Progressive Judaism wherever Jews choose to live. Come and hear stories about both the triumphs and the challenges of living a Reform/Progressive Jewish life outside of North America, and how WRJ is helping these communities emerge and thrive.
- 4. Loving Leadership and the Feeling is Contagious - Robin Sobol, WRJ Northeast District Past President** - We will be spending our time discussing how to reimagine your sisterhood and the vision for the future. Please bring your thoughts, ideas and questions. We hope to have a lively discussion!

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2018 (CONTINUED)

12:30–1:45 P.M. WORKSHOP SERIES II

12:25–1:55 P.M. FOR CHOIR

- 1. Our Northeast Programming Stars and How They Did It! Sara Charney, WRJ First Vice President; and Robin Krieger, WRJ Northeast District Corresponding Secretary, WRJ Board Member** - Come hear about creative and innovative programs from our WRJ Northeast sisters to make women's groups more relevant, exciting and successful! You will come away with many new ways to plan and organize your programs to help you get started. There will be plenty of time to share ideas and to get enthused.
- 2. We Can Resolve Conflict- Let's Talk About It! - Jane Sanders, LMSW, WRJ Northeast District Grants Co-Chair, Director of the Town of Bethlehem, NY, Senior Services Department** - Do you and some of your board members disagree about how to get the job done? Is there unhappy chatter in the parking lot after the meeting? You will learn some helpful techniques to improve communication and to resolve the conflicts.
- 3. The Power of the Purse: Women and Philanthropy, Andrea Gingold, WRJ Executive Committee Member-at-Large; and Marsha Moller, WRJ Northeast District Area Director** - Beyond bake sales and clothing drives - learn how women are having a major impact on philanthropy today. You'll learn how to engage women in a conversation that could have an impact on how your sisterhood fundraises.
- 4. WRJ Advocacy: From Suffragettes to Today's Women of Action - Jane Taves, WRJ Vice President of Advocacy and Marketing & Communications; and Betty Weiner, WRJ Northeast District Vice President** - Learn about WRJ's long history of advocacy, our top issues today, and the tools you can use to get involved Find out how WRJ works with the Religious Action Center, and other like-minded coalitions to keep us on the forefront of social justice.

12:25–1:55 P.M. (EXTENDED SESSION)

- 5. Choir Rehearsal - Coordinator: Robin Sobol, WRJ Northeast District Past President; Accompanist: Lisa Marcus Jones, Cantorial Soloist, Congregation B'nai Shalom, Westborough, Massachusetts** - Please note, you must register for choir and attend the hour-and-a-half rehearsal during the time listed. **NO WALK-INS PERMITTED!** Music will be sent in advance.

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 27, 2018

2:30–3:45 P.M. WORKSHOP SERIES III

1. ***Let's Make History: Harnessing the Power of Women's Stories*** - Mikki Pugh, Director of Programs and Education, Jewish Women's Archive; and Larisa Klebe, Associate Director of Programs and Education, Jewish Women's Archive - At the Jewish Women's Archive we believe that history belongs to everyone – not just the headline-makers (or the men). When we share our stories with each other, we create a rich and inclusive social history that includes the lives of everyday individuals. In this workshop, learn how to conduct an oral history interview with a Jewish woman you admire.
2. **The History and Practice of Jewish Meditation** - Cheryl Greenfield, M.D., Gleason & Greenfield Pediatrics - We will take an educational and experiential journey into the practice of Jewish meditation. Shiviti Adonai (יהי) L'negdi Tamid - I Place God Before Me Always.
3. **Literatherapy: The Art of Crafting Book Groups for Very Busy Women** - Sharon Sobel, Ph.D., WRJ Northeast District Vice President - We shall discuss book choices, supplemental activities, approach to the readings, and sharing the responsibilities of book group leadership. Unlike regular book groups, no advance reading is required for this.
4. **Nurturing Chesed - Loving Kindness - In our World** - Rabbi Rachel Gurevitz, Congregation B'nai Shalom, Westborough, Massachusetts - When we find ourselves living at a time when there seems to be less kindness and compassion, we can be the change that we want to see in the world, one moment, one interaction at a time. We'll explore ways to understand and nurture the trait of Chesed (Loving Kindness) in our own lives utilizing some of the wisdom of the Mussar tradition for character trait development and discuss how to bring inter-generational story-sharing into your community.

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 28, 2018

9:00–10:15 A.M. WORKSHOP SERIES IV

- 1. Increasing Your Sisterhood Membership: Building Engagement Across the Decades - Karen Schorfheide-Ray, WRJ Northeast District Area Director; and Bronte Abraham and Jessica Markowitz, members of Temple Isaiah Sisterhood, Lexington, Massachusetts -**
The Sisterhood of Temple Isaiah will share the creative ways they reach out to their congregation to encourage Sisterhood membership and participation, with emphasis on the younger generations.
- 2. Working Together - Side by Side: Alternative Sisterhood Leadership Models - Vivian Blumstein, WRJ Northeast District Immediate Past President, WRJ Board Member; and Marilyn Shebshaievitz, WRJ Northeast District Area Director -** Join us to learn about alternative models of leadership. You can share the joys and the responsibilities. Chocolate will be served!!
- 3. WRJ and Our Partners in Israel - Abby Fisher, WRJ Vice President of Philanthropy, WRJ Northeast District Past President; and Carmen Holzman, WRJ Northeast District Vice President, WRJ Board Member -** Ever wondered what WRJ does in Israel? Come find out how WRJ works with our Israeli partners on issues such as gender equality, religious pluralism and more.
- 4. Taking the Magic Home to Your Sisterhood - Denise Levine, WRJ Executive Board Member-at-Large, WRJ Northeast District Past President -** We will spend our time talking about how to bring all the excitement and enthusiasm from the weekend back home to your sisterhood. We are all bursting with ideas, but how do we pick and choose what to do first?