



VOICE OF SHAI



JANUARY 2018

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WWW.SHAIUSA.ORG



Dear SHAI Community:

Founded in 1992, Sephardic Heritage Alliance, Inc., has since its inception been dedicated to support of Persian Jewish families' and individuals' preservation of our proud three-millennial cultural heritage; obtaining educations, whilst embracing positive assimilation in the United States. SHAI's founders anticipated that the post-Iranian-Revolution Persian Jewish community in New York would grow and flourish, necessitating SHAI's support in its transitions.

26 years later, the SHAI organization effectively serves as a Jewish Community Center without walls. Funded by donor generosity, boasting a thriving and active volunteer Board, SHAI helps the Persian Jewish community and our neighbors in innumerable ways:

SHAI proudly

- Supports senior citizens' health and wellness as the largest not-for-profit sponsor of the Town of North Hempstead Senior Social Center;
- Awards in total confidentiality need-based scholarships to enable deserving students to pursue higher education, with over \$2 million awarded to date;
- Engages Persian Jews of all ages in multiple Youth, Young Families, Young Professionals, Star Singles, and Seniors events;
- Subsidizes a Summer Youth Day Camp and Teen Leadership Program;
- Partners with local institutions, such as Schools, Synagogues, Libraries, Park District, and the Town of North Hempstead to educate and support the community;
- Awards Merit Scholarships every two years in memory of the legacy of esteemed members of our community.

With minimal overhead and maximal donor and volunteer dedication, SHAI accomplishes all these and more because we are committed to preserving the best of Persian Jewish culture while continually laying the groundwork for positive assimilation for the next generation of Persian Jewish Americans.

It is the honor of a lifetime to be elected president of this multifaceted, vibrant, caring Board and organization. I invite you to learn more about SHAI, to contribute your time, ideas, and funds to its worthwhile endeavors.

Be well,
Rebecca



SHAI's new Board of Trustees

SHAI YOUNG PROFESSIONALS



SHAI Young Professionals hosted over 250 people at its Hanukkah Latkes & Vodkas event on December 18, 2017. The event was held at Doux in New York City, with an open bar, and an entrance line that extended around the block! Chocolates were donated by Jacques Torres, with latkes and sufganiyot by Pains et Gateaux de France.



SHAI STARS



On December 14, 2017 SHAI Stars held its successful Hanukkah Ball at The Space @ Westbury featuring a DJ, dancing, bar and refreshments from Shop Delight.



SHAI'S SENIOR SOCIAL CENTER EVENTS

150 seniors from our Persian community attend the programming at the Town of North Hempstead Great Neck Social Center, run by SHAI board member Parvaneh Khodadadian.

ATLANTIC CITY TRIP

In early November a bus full of seniors from the Center went to Atlantic City. It was a day filled with excitement



HANUKKAH SURPRISE LUNCHEON

For Hanukkah the Senior Social Center arranged a surprise luncheon at Shiraz for the seniors. It was a happy occasion celebrating the holiday eating at the local restaurant together.

SHAI HOSTS OPIOID AWARENESS FORUM



UPTC
United Parent Teacher Council
UNION COUNTY COMMUNITY CENTER

UPTC'S TOTAL COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT CONFERENCE
INVITES YOU TO A PARENT DISCUSSION

"NOT MY CHILD"

Opioid Addiction and Overdose:
What Parents and Teens Need to Know

Wednesday, November 1st
7:30 - 9:00 PM
Great Neck Main Library
Community Room

If you don't think it can happen to someone you care about,
think again. Addictions and overdoses can happen to anyone.

- Cover basic important talking points, prevention actions, signs of abuse and more
- Available for parents, middle and high school students, and all community-related individuals

Speakers: Jacqueline Barone of South Shore System
Panelists Include: Ulika Novakovic, Esq., M.Ed., M.A.S., M.Ed., M.Ed., CDE, CDEP, CDEP, Inc.;
Doreen Pomeroy, M.Ed. of the Nassau County Public Task Force on Opioids; Vanessa Clark, Esq.,
L.M.A., and Anthony Kaldich, CDEP, Esq., Virginia Fire Company

Parents and teens will also hear from and meet a Long Island recent high school graduate
who is currently in recovery from opioid addiction.

Questions and Answer Session to Follow Panel Discussion

Translation Services Available. Please contact info@shaiusa.org to request.

This past November, SHAI, co-sponsored the Not My Child forum on opioid addiction and overdose.

SHAI IS A CHAMPION FOR CHARITY



DINE FOR SHAI! SHOP FOR SHAI!
SHAI participates in
CHAMPIONS FOR CHARITY®

**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 30 THROUGH
SUNDAY DECEMBER 3, 2017**

Dine with SHAI

Cipolletti, Thursday, November 30 at 7pm or 9pm
Isku, Saturday, December 2 at 7pm or 9pm
Cipolletti, Saturday, December 2 at 7pm or 9pm
Ben's Kosher Deli, Sunday, December 3 at 5pm or 7pm

Shop for SHAI

at the Americana and Wheatley Plaza,
while supporting SHAI in our 26 year mission
to provide senior citizen programming,
educational scholarships, and diverse programs for our
youngest through our most senior community members.

At the register simply use this code **81340**

25% of your qualifying restaurant and store purchases
at the Americana Shopping Center and Wheatley Plaza
can be designated as donations to SHAI.

For reservations or other questions:

Ask VP Miriela Haghani at miriela@shaiusa.org
or Executive Ashley Kiani at ashleykiani@yahoo.com



Visit championsforcharity.org, or call 800.828.8287,
or register in person with the Americana Concierge

From 11/30-12/3 Americana Shopping Center and Wheatley Plaza donated 25% of restaurant and store purchases to SHAI. SHAI personally thanks all the participants who shopped and dined!

THANKSGIVING COMMUNITY HARVEST CELEBRATION

SHAI together with United Parent Teacher Council and Great Neck Chinese Association united over 80 Great Neck public and private school students for an incredibly moving Community Harvest Celebration this November. The children sang together, performed responsive readings, and shared desserts with their families afterwards.



SHAI YOUNG FAMILIES HAPPENING THIS MONTH



SHAI YOUNG FAMILIES

DATE NIGHT

LAUGHS, BITES, DRINKS, AND DISCUSSION
JOIN SHAI AND DR. ZINA RUTKIN* IN
LOVE, MARRIAGE, AND THE BABY CARRIAGE:
TIPS FOR NAVIGATING THE EARLY YEARS

JANUARY 16TH 2018

SESSION 7B

1350 1ST AVE, NEW YORK, NY 10021

8:10:30 PM

SUSHI AND DRINKS

RSVP AT SHAIYOUNGFAMILY@GMAIL.COM

*Dr. Zina Rutkin is a clinical psychologist with expertise in children and couples

SNOW DATE: FEBRUARY 27TH, 2018

SHAI AND HISTORICAL SOCIETY HAPPENING THIS MONTH



The Great Neck
Historical Society



Invites You
To Hear About...

Great Neck's
Cultural Mosaic:
Persian & Chinese
Experiences

featuring:

Else Yung

Past President, Great Neck Chinese Association
Rebecca Yousefzadeh Sassouni
President, Sephardic Heritage Alliance Inc. (SHAI)

Mansour Aaron Karimzadeh
Chairman, History & Heritage Committee,
United Mashadi Jewish Community

They will discuss the attraction of their community to Great Neck and their involvement in Great Neck since coming to the community.

Thursday, January 18
Great Neck House • 7:30 p.m.

REGISTER
SHAIUSA.ORG
SHAI
CAMP
SUMMER
2018

APPLICATIONS FOR SHAI EDUCATION
SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE AT
WWW.SHAIUSA.ORG

SHAI/UPTC Education Panel on Tolerance,
Civility and Bullying
APRIL 23, 2018 – Great Neck Main Library



P.O. BOX 1025
Great Neck, NY 11023

Save The Date

SHAI'S *Bi-annual Gala Event*

Wednesday, March 14th, 2018

Temple Israel of Great Neck

