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You're invited to celebrate Israel and remember those we lost

Images:

[Israel 76 logo](#)

[Yom HaZikaron Flyer](#)

[Yom Ha'Atzmaut Flyer](#)

Columbus, Ohio - May 9, 2024 – JewishColumbus, The Jewish Community Center of Greater Columbus, and many partner organizations are proud to host two significant events honoring Yom HaZikaron (Israel Memorial Day) and Yom Ha'Atzmaut (Israel Independence Day) celebrations.

These events will be held at the JCC of Greater Columbus, located at 1125 College Ave., Columbus, Ohio 43209.

Please join us on May 12th at 6:00 pm for a deeply meaningful and reflective Yom HaZikaron Community Ceremony. This event provides a solemn opportunity for us to come together as a community and pay tribute to the brave soldiers of Israel who have made the ultimate sacrifice, as well as to the innocent victims of the tragic October 7th terror attack.

During the ceremony, we will engage in various forms of remembrance, including heartfelt prayers, soul-stirring songs, moving speeches, and a poignant candle lighting ceremony. These acts of commemoration serve as a testament to the enduring spirit and resilience of the Israeli people in the face of adversity.

One of the highlights of the evening will be the presence of esteemed Israeli photojournalist, Erez Kaganovitz, who will share insights into his powerful exhibit, "Humans of Israel - 7th of October," which will be on display in the JCC of Greater Columbus lobby. Through his evocative images and compelling narratives, Kaganovitz provides a window into the lives of ordinary Israelis who have been profoundly impacted by the events of that fateful day.

In addition to Kaganovitz's exhibit, we are privileged to have witnesses of the Israel-Hamas war share their firsthand experiences as responders to the October 7th attacks with the

community. Their stories serve as a reminder of the sacrifices made by countless individuals in the pursuit of peace and security for the State of Israel.

Throughout the evening, attendees can expect to be moved by Israeli songs, inspired by posters honoring the victims of the Israel-Hamas War, and captivated by the poignant photos from the Humans of October 7th exhibit. Personal stories from congregation leaders and Israeli representatives, accompanied by videos from our partners in Kfar Saba, will provide further depth and context to the ceremony.

The culmination of the event will be the singing of HaTikvah, Israel's national anthem, and the distribution of yahrzeit candles, symbolizing our commitment to ensuring that the memories of those we have lost are forever cherished and honored.

We invite you to join us as we come together in solidarity and remembrance, standing shoulder to shoulder with the people of Israel in their journey towards peace and healing.

We are also celebrating Yom Ha'Atzmaut!

We warmly invite you to join us on May 14th from 5-8pm at the JCC of Greater Columbus as we come together to celebrate Israel's 76th birthday. This year, our focus is on fostering community unity and solidarity, as we honor the rich tapestry of Israeli culture and heritage.

The evening promises to be filled with excitement and camaraderie, featuring a lively "Blue and White" shuk (market) and Mitzvah fair. Here, you'll have the opportunity to explore and engage with various projects aimed at supporting Israel, led by our partner agencies. From planting red anemone flowers as a symbol of hope and renewal to offering assistance to displaced families, there will be numerous ways for you to contribute to the betterment of Israeli society.

In addition to these meaningful initiatives, we are delighted to host several Israeli small business owners who will showcase their products and share their stories. Their presence adds a dynamic flair to the festivities, providing a glimpse into the entrepreneurial spirit that thrives within Israel.

As the evening unfolds, you can look forward to being entertained by the captivating melodies of Josh Warshawsky, whose performance promises to uplift and inspire. We will also take a moment to express our heartfelt appreciation to JewishColumbus' Life and Legacy donors for their invaluable support and commitment to our community.

This celebration offers a unique opportunity for you to immerse yourself in Israeli culture, to connect with fellow community members, and to demonstrate your solidarity with the

people of Israel. Don't miss out on this memorable occasion as we come together to rejoice, reflect, and reaffirm our bonds of friendship and support.

Register today by visiting <https://jewishcolumbus.org/jcrc/israel76/>

For more information and questions, please contact JewishColumbus' Manager of Israel & Community Relations, Lauren Nemerovski at lauren@jewishcolumbus.org.

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