

CONGREGATION ANSHEI ISRAEL

presents

SUMMER FILM SERIES

2013



**SUNDAYS AT 7:00PM
JUNE 30 THRU JULY 28**

Enjoy popcorn and lemonade as we share the pleasure of spending a few, cool moments in the shadow of each others' presence. Stay after each showing for a casual discussion of the film.



JUNE 30 • Driving Miss Daisy (1 hr. 39 mins.)

Based on the Pulitzer Prize-winning play by Alfred Uhry, *Driving Miss Daisy* affectionately covers the 25-year relationship between a wealthy, strong-willed Southern matron (Jessica Tandy) and her equally indomitable black chauffeur, Hoke (Morgan Freeman). Both employer and employee are outsiders; Hoke because of the color of his skin, Miss Daisy because she is Jewish in a WASP-dominated society. At the same time, Hoke cannot fathom Miss Daisy's cloistered inability to grasp the social changes that are sweeping the South in the 1960s. Nor can Miss Daisy understand why Hoke's "people" are

so indignant. It is only when Hoke is retired and Miss Daisy is confined to a home for the elderly that the two fully realize that they've been friends and kindred spirits all along.



JULY 7 • Yentl (2 hrs. 17 mins.)

Barbra Streisand's directorial debut, *Yentl*, is a musical adaptation of a story by the beloved Jewish writer Isaac Bashevis Singer. Yentl (Streisand) is a young woman who wants nothing more than to study religious scripture. She is denied that possibility because she is a woman. She moves, passes herself off as a male named Anshel, and then begins her studies. She becomes close to fellow student Avigdor (Mandy Patinkin), eventually falling in love with him, although she cannot reveal her true self as she would then be expelled. Avigdor is in love with Hadass (Amy Irving), but religious law forbids him from marrying her. Avigdor attempts to fix Anshel up with Hadass, leading to Hadass falling in love with Anshel.

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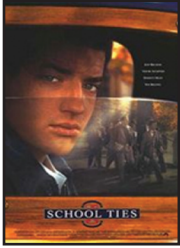
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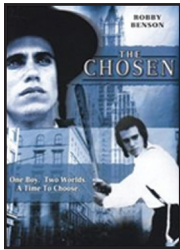
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JULY 14 • School Ties (1 hr. 47 mins.)

This tale of anti-Semitism at a 1950s prep school stars Brendan Fraser as David Greene, a working-class Jewish quarterback from Scranton, Pennsylvania, who is offered a senior year scholarship to a prestigious New England academy. It's David's ticket to an Ivy League education and a way out of his hometown, but there's one condition: the school's elders ask him to be discreet about his religion. At first willing to do so, David struggles with his silence about his faith as his popularity grows. David strikes up a friendship with his roommate Chris Reece (Chris O'Donnell) and a possible romance with Sally Wheeler (Amy Locane), a student at a nearby girls' school. When jealous classmate Charlie Dillon (Matt Damon) learns David's secret at an alumni party, he exposes the school's new gridiron hero, and David faces the full force of religious intolerance from the prejudiced WASP institution.



JULY 21 • The Chosen (1 hr. 47 mins.)

Set in the Brooklyn of the 1940s, *The Chosen* elucidates the friendship between two young Jews of differing factions. Daniel Saunders (Robby Benson) is Hassidic, while Reuven Malter (Barry Miller) is a Zionist. Though separated ideologically, the boys find a common bond through their love of stickball. Rod Steiger costars as Benson's rabbi father, delivering a performance virtually devoid of the mannered stridency that has marred many of his past film work. Based on a novel by Chaim Potok.



JULY 28 • Everything is Illuminated (1 hr. 45 mins.)

A young man takes a strange and unexpectedly funny journey in search of a family heroine he's never known in this screen adaptation of the novel by Jonathan Safran Foer. Jonathan (Elijah Wood) is a lifelong collector of any and all objects pertaining to his family, and he has become obsessed with a woman he's never met. The woman saved the life of his grandfather during World War II, when the Ukrainian town where he was born was destroyed by Nazi troops. Wanting to know more about the woman, Jonathan flies to the Ukraine, where with the help of a tour guide and translator named Alex (Eugene Hütz), Alex's grandfather (Boris Leskin), and a dog named Sammy Davis Junior Junior, Jonathan searches for the meaning of the present that lies buried in the past, unexpectedly shedding the same such light on the lives of those around him. *Everything Is Illuminated* was the first directorial assignment for acclaimed actor Liev Schreiber.

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