

**CHALLENGING CONVENTION:
SECULAR AND HUMANIST AND JEW**



COLLOQUIUM 2009 • OCTOBER 23-25

CHALLENGING CONVENTION: SECULAR AND HUMANIST AND JEW

WHO ARE SECULAR AMERICANS?

CAN YOU BE GOOD WITHOUT A GOD?

IS ORGANIZED RELIGION A FORCE FOR GOOD OR EVIL?

CAN YOU SEPARATE 'SYNAGOGUE AND STATE' IN ISRAEL?

CAN A HUMANIST OR A SECULAR JEW BE PRESIDENT?

WHEN IS CONFORMITY GOOD?

Secular Humanistic Judaism challenges convention in many directions. We seek a public square without invocations and nations not "under God." We challenge conventional wisdom, looking for meaning and community in this world, not beyond. We challenge universalist secular conventions, insisting on our particular Jewishness. And we challenge Jewish convention in Israel and North America, asking questions and celebrating realities that others fear.

Join us to explore the hard questions with scholars, activists and leaders in Secular Humanistic Judaism.

The International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism

Pivnick Center for Humanistic Judaism at The Birmingham Temple
28611 West Twelve Mile Road, Farmington Hills, MI 48334

For More Information: 248-476-9532 • iishj@iishj.org • www.iishj.org

SPEAKERS

Ron Aronson: Distinguished Professor of the History of Ideas at Wayne State University. Author of *Living Without God: New Directions for Atheists, Agnostics, Secularists, and the Undecided*; and *Camus and Sartre: The Story of a Friendship and the Quarrel that Ended It*.

Caryn Aviv: Lecturer at the Center for Judaic Studies at the University of Denver. Director of Research for Jewish Mosaic: The National Center for Sexual and Gender Diversity. Co-author of *New Jews: The End of Diaspora*; co-editor of *Queer Jews*. Currently blogs for Haaretz.com.

Jacques Berlinerblau: Associate Professor and Director of the Program for Jewish Civilization at Georgetown University. Author of *The Secular Bible: Why Nonbelievers Must Take Religion Seriously*; and *Thumpin' It: The Use and Abuse of the Bible in Today's Presidential Politics*.

Lori Lipman Brown: Founding Director of the Secular Coalition for America. Former Nevada State Senator. Media appearances include *The Situation Room with Tucker Carlson*, *The O'Reilly Factor*, and *The Colbert Report*.

Adam Chalom: Dean for North America of the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism and Rabbi of Kol Hadash Humanistic Congregation, Illinois. Author of *An Introduction to Secular Humanistic Judaism*. Media appearances include National Public Radio and the Chicago Tribune.

Greg Epstein: Humanist Chaplain of Harvard University. Author of the forthcoming *Good Without God: What a Billion Non-Religious People Do Believe*. Media appearances include National Public Radio, *Newsweek*, *US News and World Report*, and *The Forward*. Currently blogs for *Newsweek* and *The Washington Post*.

Sivan Malkin Maas: Dean of Tmura: The Institute for Training Secular Humanistic Jewish Rabbis and Jewish Leadership in Israel. Director of *Hasifriya Hahilonit* [Secular Library] of Keter Publishers. First Israeli ordained as Secular Humanistic Rabbi. Frequent appearances in Israeli TV and print media.

SCHEDULE

Friday, October 23

7:30pm Keynote: Manifesto for a New Secular Judaism
Jacques Berlinerblau
Oneg Shabbat Following

Saturday October 24

9:00am Who Are Secular Americans? Why Must We Have a Voice?
Lori Lipman Brown, Ron Aronson

10:20am Break

10:40am Building Humanism: Purpose, Compassion and Community Without God – Greg Epstein, Ron Aronson

12:00pm Luncheon

1:00pm The New Jewish Diversity – Caryn Aviv

2:20pm Break

2:40pm Challenging Our Conventions – The Hard Questions
Entire Panel

4:00pm Break

5:30pm Ordination Dinner

7:30pm Ordination of Leaders and Rabbis
Conferral of Sherwin T. Wine Lifetime Achievement Award
Reception Following

Sunday, October 25

9:00am Challenging Judaism in Israel – Sivan Malkin Maas

10:20am Break

10:40am Where Do We Go from Here? – Adam Chalom

12:00pm Shalom

COLLOQUIUM 2009

OUR WORK DEPENDS ON YOU!

Your contribution to the International Institute for Secular Humanistic Judaism supports:

- This Colloquium and Future Colloquia of the Institute.
- The education and training of Rabbis, Leaders and Educators.
- Educational seminars for Secular Humanistic Jewish communities.
- The publication of educational and inspirational literature.

Please consider joining the "FRIENDS OF THE INSTITUTE" with a tax-deductible gift of \$1000 or more to support our crucial work for the movement of Secular Humanistic Judaism. Friends of the Institute are invited to "Dine with the Speakers" on Friday evening.

You may also choose to sponsor (or co-sponsor) a speaker for \$5000 (\$2500), with appropriate recognition in the program book and during the Colloquium session.

Donation opportunities are listed on the Colloquium registration form.

ACCOMMODATION INFO:

Fairfield Inn and Suites

in Farmington Hills • 248-442-9800

**Group Rate* = \$74/Night for One King or
Two Queen-size Beds.**

(Includes full breakfast.)

Reserve ASAP for group rate; use keyword
"Colloquium 2009" when booking.

*Group rates good until September 7, 2009.

Payment of full registration fees, including meal requests, must accompany the registration form. Please make checks payable in U.S. funds and mail to:

**International Institute for Secular
Humanistic Judaism
28611 West Twelve Mile Road
Farmington Hills, MI 48334**

REGISTRATION FORM

Name (s): _____ No. attending: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: _____ Cell: _____

Email: _____

FULL WEEKEND REGISTRATION: By July 31st: \$179 (without meals) \$245 (all meals)
After July 31st: \$199 (without meals) \$265 (all meals)

SPECIAL RATES: \$30 Full-Time Student (without meals) \$150 Clergy (without meals)

DAILY REGISTRATION: Saturday only: \$120 (without meals) Sunday only: \$80

MEALS: Saturday lunch: \$20 Saturday night dinner: \$36

I/We want to join the supporters of continuing Colloquium programs and be listed in the Colloquium 2009 Program Book.

\$100 \$250 \$500 Donor \$1000 Friend* \$2500/\$5000 Speaker Co-Sponsor/Sponsor Other \$ _____

Your name may be listed in the program book if your donation is received by Sept. 5. **"Friends" and above will "Dine with the Speakers" on Friday evening.

List in the program book as: _____ Do not list me:

Please contact me about placing a message or an ad in the Program Book:

CHECK ENCLOSED: **PLEASE CHARGE TO MY CREDIT CARD:** MasterCard Visa

Account No: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Card Holder Name: _____ Amount: _____

How did you learn about Colloquium 2009? _____

