

# Resilience & Perseverance

The Soviet Jewry Movement for Today's Generation

An Evening With



Wednesday, March 4, 2026

6:30 PM

UJA-Federation of New York

130 East 59th Street, New York, NY 10022

## Program Highlights

Most people under 30 have never heard of it. And that's exactly the problem.

For nearly three decades, college students, housewives, dentists, and rabbis ran letter-writing campaigns, held vigils, and marched for Jews they'd never met - until a quarter million gathered on the National Mall in 1987 in the largest rally ever organized in America on behalf of a Jewish cause. Within four years, the Soviet Union was gone. Over two million Jews were free.

Tonight marks the launch of the Soviet Jewry Movement Education Project - and a conversation about what this story has to teach young Jews facing hatred right now.



### Evening Emcee

Tessa Veksler

Daughter of Odessa immigrants and the first Shabbat-observant student body president in UC Santa Barbara history, Tessa became a nationally recognized voice for Jewish students after facing targeted antisemitism on campus - and is featured in the documentary October 8.



### Keynote Conversation

Izabella Tabarovsky

Senior Fellow, Z3 Institute,  
Author, *Be a Refusenik: A Jewish Student's Survival Guide*

## Registration

### GENERAL ADMISSION

\$54 (\$18 is a tax-deductible donation to SJMEP)

### STUDENTS & JEWISH EDUCATORS

\$18

[REGISTER NOW](#)

Hosted by UJA Federation NEW YORK and in partnership with



# Program Details



## KEYNOTE CONVERSATION

Izabella Tabarovsky | Senior Fellow, Z3 Institute, and Fellow, Wilson Center



## EXCLUSIVE UNVEILING: "Ask Natan" AI Tool

Be among the first to experience groundbreaking technology that makes Natan Sharansky's life and wisdom accessible to educators and students worldwide. Includes a special video message from Natan Sharansky himself.



## COMMUNITY CONVERSATION

Leaders from the Soviet Jewry Movement, UJA-Federation of New York, COJECO, Jewish Parent Academy, Club Z, Nash Dom, and iMishpacha discuss how to equip the next generation with knowledge, confidence, and advocacy skills.



## RECEPTION & NETWORKING

Light kosher refreshments | Interactive archival displays | Connect with educators, activists, and community leaders

*"The struggle to release Soviet Jewry is the most outstanding example of the power of our people's solidarity in modern history." — Natan Sharansky*



## ABOUT SOVIET JEWRY MOVEMENT EDUCATION PROJECT

Through a comprehensive digital archive, evidence-based curriculum, and educator training, SJMEP is building a generation of proud, informed, and empowered Jewish advocates.

Hosted by  and in partnership with



## MADE POSSIBLE BY SJMEP FOUNDING MEMBERS

Laura Bialis  
Robert Gordon  
Debbie Kardon  
Miriam Rosenblum  
Morey Schapira  
Natan Sharansky  
Leo Slepak

## QUESTIONS?

[events@sovietjewryarchives.org](mailto:events@sovietjewryarchives.org) | [www.sovietjewryarchives.org](http://www.sovietjewryarchives.org)

Soviet Jewry Movement Education Project  
501(c)(3) Tax ID available upon request  
*Preserving History. Inspiring Future Generations. Empowering Jewish Voices Today.*