

Mark Your Calendars...The Jewish Film Festival is Coming
Thursday Nights at the Movies
February 16 and 23 March 1 and 8 at the
Penn State Altoona Devorris Downtown Center

February 16, 2012



100 Voices: A Journey Home - 91 minutes, documentary (made in USA) 2010. A musical documentary that uniquely tells the history of Jewish culture in Poland. It highlights the current resurgence of Jewish culture through the personal reflections and musical selections of a group of cantors and acclaimed composer Charles Fox who made an important historical mission to the birthplace of Cantorial music. The documentary will give generations the opportunity to learn about and re-embrace the Jewish culture that produced one of the most artistic and educated societies that once flourished in Europe. The film celebrates the resilience and the power of Jewish life, while telling the story of two peoples who shared intertwined cultures.

The Secrets – 120 minutes, Hebrew, French and English, drama (made in Israel) 2007. Two brilliant young women discover their own voices in a repressive orthodox culture where females are forbidden to sing, let alone speak out. Naomi, the studious, devoutly religious daughter of a prominent rabbi, convinces her father to postpone her marriage for a year so that she might study at a Jewish seminary for women in the ancient Kabbalistic seat of Safed. Naomi's quest for individuality takes a turn when she befriends Michelle, a free-spirited fellow student. When the pair encounters a mysterious, ailing foreigner with a disturbing past named Anouk, they begin a risky journey into forbidden realms.

February 23, 2012



March 1, 2012



The Frisco Kid - 114 minutes, Yiddish and English, comedy (made in USA) 1979. Gene Wilder plays Polish rabbi, Avram Belinsky, who intends to set up a congregation in San Francisco. Eminently unsuited for life in the Old West, poor Avram is victimized by everyone with whom he comes in contact, Salvation arrives in the unlikely form of taciturn bank robber Tommy, (Harrison Ford). Incredibly, Tommy takes a liking to the feckless Avram, and together the two men embark on a series of seriocomic adventures.

Jewish Soldiers in Blue and Gray - 88 minutes, English, documentary (made in USA) 2011. This film coincides with the 150th anniversary of the Civil War and is a first of its kind film that reveals little known struggles facing American Jews both in battle and on the home front during the nation's deadliest war. This documentary reveals an unknown chapter in American history when allegiances split the Jewish community. It examines a time when 10,000 Jewish soldiers fought on both sides. And the film exposes General Grant's controversial decision to expel all Jews from his territory. It also tells the story of President Lincoln's Jewish doctor serving as a spy in the South, and how five Union Jewish soldiers received the Congressional Medal of Honor.

March 8, 2012



Join us for a great dinner next door at the Heritage Discovery Center beginning at 5:30pm. We'll have wine and appetizers, with dinner catered by Paula & Dave Binus. All films begin at 7:30pm. It's the best bargain in town with dinner at only \$12/person and films at \$3 for Federation members \$5 for non-members and free for students. Reserve your space by calling the Federation office at 515-1182 or email us at altfed@atlanticbb.net.