

For Immediate Release
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Jewish Museum of Maryland Receives Prestigious National Endowment for the Humanities Grant for Upcoming Exhibit

The rich history of Jews and medicine will be on display at the Jewish Museum of Maryland in March 2016, thanks to a \$300,000 grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

Beyond Chicken Soup: Jews and Medicine in America, presented by the Herbert Bearman Foundation, will explore the interplay of culture, religion and the practice of medicine. Topics will include Jewish stereotypes, the changing relationship between doctors and patients and the ethical issues of modern medicine. These questions and others will be viewed through a national lens and with an eye toward Maryland's contribution to the conversation.

This grant is one of only two NEH grants given to Baltimore institutions and one of only five given to Maryland institutions this year. The NEH also awarded grants to 232 humanities projects in museums, libraries and cultural organizations, among others.

"We are thrilled to be selected for this competitive and prestigious grant," said Marvin Pinkert. "These funds will enable us to produce a high quality, interactive exhibit that will engage audiences across all demographics who are interested in the rich contributions of Jews to the medical field."

One of the highlights of *Beyond Chicken Soup: Jews and Medicine in America* will be manuscripts collected by Baltimorean Harry Friedenwald, now housed in the National Library of Israel. These manuscripts – all related to Jews and medicine, date from the sixth to 18th centuries and are returning for their first appearance in the United States since 1943.

The lead sponsor of the exhibit is the Herbert Bearman Foundation. Leadership grants have also been received from the Institute of Museum and Library Services and Lifebridge Health. Major contributors include Johns Hopkins University and Johns Hopkins Hospital and Health System, CareFirst BlueCross BlueShield, University of Maryland Medical System Foundation and the University of Maryland School of Medicine, PSA Insurance and Financial Services

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Inc., GBMC Healthcare, Dr. David and Suzy Liebman, Dr. Robert and Carol Keehn, Dr. Sheldon and Saralynn Glass, Elayne Hurwitz, and Dr. Ira and Leslie Papel.

The Jewish Museum of Maryland, at 15 Lloyd Street, is America's leading museum of regional Jewish history, culture and community, located in downtown Baltimore, blocks from the Inner harbor. At the JMM visitors can uncover the roots of Jewish history in changing exhibitions and landmark historic sites – the Lloyd Street Synagogue, built in 1845, now the nation's third oldest standing synagogue, and B'nai Israel Synagogue, built in 1876 and home to a vibrant congregation.

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