



**The Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington to Exhibit Photographs by Famous Israeli Photographer Rudi Weissenstein**

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**ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND** – The Jewish Community Center of Greater Washington (JCCGW) is pleased to announce the opening of an exhibition of photographs by world-famous Israeli photographer Rudi Weissenstein. Forty four selected photographs from the exhibition **Your Fortunate Eyes** will appear in the Center’s Goldman Art Gallery from September 1 through October 13, 2013. This event is free and open to the public.

“The Center is pleased to host **Your Fortunate Eyes** for our community,” said JCCGW CEO Michael Feinstein. “Hosting this exhibit at the Center’s Goldman Art Gallery is a great honor for us and we are thankful to the Kaplan Family Foundation for making this possible. Showcasing Israel’s modern history through photos is a wonderful way to engage both children and adults, and build our connection with Israel. We hope to attract a broad segment of our community to see the history, spirit, people and pivotal events of Israel,” he stated.

Primarily taken between the 1930s and the 1970s, Weissenstein’s photographs capture a multifaceted Israel during the early years of its formation. He documented the arrival of Jewish immigrants, the construction of new settlements and industries, the kibbutz collectives and Bedouin Arabs, as well as military parades, cultural events and scenes from everyday life.

On May 14, 1948, Weissenstein was chosen as the only official photographer of the signing of Israel’s Declaration of Independence. He also photographed people who would later become Israel’s leaders: Golda Meir, Menachem Begin, Yitzhak Rabin, Shimon Peres and many others. His photograph of David Ben-Gurion at the reading of the Declaration made Weissenstein world famous.

This exhibit was curated by Ben Peter, Michal Amram & Andreas Grau-Fuchs, Pri-Or PhotoHouse Tel Aviv. The JCCGW gratefully acknowledges The Kaplan Family Foundation for supporting this exhibit.

The JCCGW creates a welcoming and inclusive environment, connecting the people of the Jewish community with each other, Israel and the broader community. We inspire individuals of all ages and backgrounds to enhance their social, physical, intellectual and spiritual well-being through programs of excellence rooted in Jewish values. [www.jccgw.org](http://www.jccgw.org).

Sample Photos:



The eruption of World War II, listening to the radio, Sep. 1939, Tel Aviv



Ben-Gurion declaring the establishment of the State of Israel, 1948



Golda Meir speaking at the opening of the Tel Aviv-Natania road, 1950

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