FESTIVAL SPONSORS

As of January 28, 2026

SUPERSTAR
Caren & Herbert Ford
Sara-Ann & Robert Sanders
Deborah & Wayne Zuckerman

PRODUCER
Jodi & Wayne Cooperman
Terri & Mark Friedman
Terri & Michael Goldberg
Richard & Efrat Weisfield
Wilf Family Foundations

DIRECTOR
Berkowitz Lichtstein, LLC
(Lawrence Neher & Deborah Prinz)
Andrea & Bryan Bier
Comerchero Family
Judy & Howard Konicov
Marlene & Saul Lupin
Geri Schaeffer
Sharon & Jimmy Schwarz
Ethel & Robert Singer

CELEBRITY
Joyce & Jerry Bertner
ChaiFlicks
Jeffrey Cohen
Joni & Alan Cohen
Richard & Nancy Dinar
Ilene Dorf Manahan
Alice G. Goldfarb
Joyce & Neil Goldstein
Pam Heller
Ruth L. Hutter
Max L. Kleinman
Judith Lieberman
Kathy Loesberg & Santiago Fuertes
Marilyn & Monroe Markovitz
Lonye & Stephen Rasch
Lawrence Rein
Dr. Susan Roth
The Russell Berrie Foundation
Sharon & Stephen Seiden
Dr. Barbara S. Starr
Lara Stolman & Michael Watzky
Elliot & Susan Stupak
Neimah & Paul Tractenberg
Fani & Alan Weissman

SUPPORTING CAST
Barbara & Scott Birnbaum
Bobbi Bromberg
Jody & Jonathan Caplan
Barbara Drench
Nancy T. Fisher
Mattye & Bob Gandel
Stephen & Mindy Goldman
Susan Wolf Greene
Meg & Howard Jacobs
Lori Feinberg Kany & Family
Cynthia Kestenbaum
Alice & Jacob Klein
Hon. Harriet Farber Klein
Harriet Lainer
Eta Levenson
Joel & Stephanie Morgan
Ruth Ross
Evelyn Rothfeld
Susan Weinstock

To see names of Festival Supporters and Community Sponsors, along with sponsors submitted after the printing of this brochure, please visit our website at jccmw.us/roesch-njjff.

Festival programs are subject to change or cancellation.
Please check **jccmw.us/roesch-njjff** for the most up-to-date information.

TICKETS: jccmw.us/roesch-njjff
- Most festival films are $15/ticket.
- Special Events are $18/ticket; all are noted in the schedule.
- Eventbrite service fees apply to credit card sales online.
- All events are FREE for Sponsors and Festival Supporter Pass holders; Opening, Closing, and any films selling out require tickets to be reserved in advance.
- Advance ticket purchase is recommended, as films will sell out.
- Limited tickets will be sold at the door for cash, only. To buy tickets in advance with cash, please see our box office hours below.
- Sorry, no refunds or exchanges.

EVENTBRITE TECHNICAL SUPPORT:
For technical questions, please email:
NJJFFsupport@jccmetrowest.org
We are not able to offer ticket sales over the phone. Please instead purchase tickets online or come to our in-person box office hours, listed below.

IN-PERSON BOX OFFICE AT THE J
Ticket purchases with cash or check (no credit cards, sorry) are available at the following times:
9:00–10:30 am • Friday, February 6
12:30–2:00 pm • Tuesday, February 17
Noon–1:15 pm • Thursday, February 26
Noon–1:15 pm • Wednesday, March 4
Please see our website for updated box office hours

ALL EVENTS AT:
Maurice Levin Theater
Leon and Toby Cooperman JCC
Pauline B. and Mortimer Salzman Building
Eric F. and Lore Ross Family Campus
760 Northfield Avenue
West Orange, New Jersey

SEATING POLICY
Sponsor and Festival Supporter Pass seating will begin 30 minutes prior to all screenings. General admission ticket holders will be admitted 20 minutes prior to all screenings. In the event of a sell-out, a wait list will be created for any further sales.

GENERAL INFO
Films are not rated and may contain violence, sexual content, and/or explicit language. We encourage all viewers to make informed decisions. Please see each film's listing for information about its language, subtitles, and availability of English captions.

MALVIN & GRETA ROESCH NEW JERSEY JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL
MetroWest

Leon and Toby Cooperman JCC
Pauline B. and Mortimer Salzman Building
Eric F. and Lore Ross Family Campus
760 Northfield Avenue | West Orange, NJ 07052
jccmetrowest.org

JCC MetroWest strives to ensure access and meaningful participation by all members of the community.

This program was made possible by a grant from the Malvin and Greta Roesch Film Festival Endowment Fund of the Jewish Community Foundation of Greater MetroWest NJ.

THE GALEN CENTER FOR THE ARTS
MetroWest

Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ

JCC MetroWest is a beneficiary agency of Jewish Federation of Greater MetroWest NJ.

Made possible by funds from the New Jersey State Council on the Arts, a partner agency of the National Endowment for the Arts.

MetroWest

MALVIN & GRETA ROESCH NEW JERSEY JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL

MARCH 5 – 22, 2026

AWARD-WINNING FILMS

Q&A SESSIONS WITH GUEST SPEAKERS

SPECIAL PROGRAMS & RECEPTIONS

Cabaret Total, Israel

THURSDAY 3/5
OPENING NIGHT

7–9:30 PM
The Floaters
$18 tickets
Rachel Israel
2025, USA, 101 minutes

FEATURE

English with English subtitles

The Floaters is the next classic summer camp comedy, steeped in Jewish identity, about misfits coming together to save their camp in a winner-take-all Maccabiah.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with the filmmakers!

SATURDAY 3/7

7:45–10 PM
Once Upon My Mother
Ken Scott
2025, France and Canada
102 minutes

FEATURE

French with English subtitles

A mother's unwavering devotion helps her son, born with a clubfoot in 1963, overcome physical challenges and social barriers. Her powerful promise drives their remarkable journey through decades of life's ups and downs.

SUNDAY 3/8

3–5:15 PM
Ain't No Back to a Merry-Go-Round

DOCUMENTARY

Ilana Trachtman
2024, USA
89 minutes

English with English subtitles

The first interracial Civil Rights protest in America was organized in 1960 by five Black college students and quickly joined by the neighboring community of progressive Jews. Their solidarity incubated activists, provoked white supremacists, inspired Congressmen, and changed the course of American history.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with director Ilana Trachtman on Zoom

SPOTLIGHT MONDAY 3/9

7–9:30 PM
From Darkness to Light
$18 tickets
Eric Friedler
& Michael Lurie

DOCUMENTARY

2024, USA & Germany, 108 minutes
English and French with English subtitles

This groundbreaking documentary tells the full story of Jerry Lewis' doomed 1972 production of *The Day the Clown Cried*, an early film about the Holocaust, and shows fully edited scenes from the lost film for the first time.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with Jerry Lewis' former archivist Bob Furmanek, Founder & CEO of 3-D Film Archive

WEDNESDAY 3/11

1–3 PM
Looking Up
Elena Neuman
2025, USA
71 minutes

DOCUMENTARY

English with English subtitles

Eitan Armon is rapidly losing his vision to a rare genetic condition in his 20s, and he is going to climb El Capitan in Yosemite National Park. This documentary chronicles his inspiring journey with breathtaking footage.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with director Elena Neuman on Zoom

THURSDAY 3/12

7–9:30 PM
Fantasy Life
Matthew Shear
2025, USA
91 minutes

FEATURE

English with English subtitles

A neurotic 30-something man stumbles into a nanny role for a wealthy family and a close, complicated relationship with their mother, an actress navigating a stalled career. This comedy has trenchant humor, emotional honesty, and stunning performances.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with writer-director Matthew Shear on Zoom

SHORTS PROGRAM FRIDAY 3/13
NOON–1:45 PM

Total running time: 83 minutes

Please check our website for language and subtitle information.

The Wall
Israel, Dovi Rozenberg, 13 minutes

The Whistle
USA, Greg Franklin, 7 minutes

Unraveled
USA, Yale Fried, 14 minutes

Elisha
Israel, Noam Weizman, 18 minutes

Kaleidoscope Eyes: A Legacy in Stained Glass
USA, Rob Harari & Harry Kafka, 31 minutes

SPOTLIGHT SATURDAY 3/14

8:45–10:45 PM
31 Candles
$18 tickets
Jonah Feingold
2025, USA
90 minutes

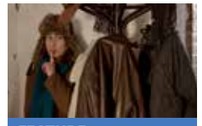
FEATURE

English with English subtitles

Leo, a 30-year-old New Yorker, is inspired to finally have his Bar Mitzvah after reconnecting with his childhood crush, Eva. His Mitzvah Project is nothing less than making sense of his Jewish identity and romantic history.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with writer-director Jonah Feingold

SUNDAY 3/15



Noon–2:45 PM
The Property
Dana Modan
2024, Israel
110 minutes

FEATURE

Hebrew, Polish, and English with English subtitles

Regina and her granddaughter Mika travel from Israel to Poland to reclaim their family property seized during World War II. Funny, emotional, and chaotic personal journeys ensue.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with director/co-writer Dana Modan on Zoom

4–6:15 PM
The Sea
Shai Carmeli-Pollak
2025, Israel
93 minutes

FEATURE

Arabic and Hebrew with English subtitles

When a 12-year-old Palestinian boy misses his first trip to the Mediterranean, he leaves home alone for another chance. His father must leave his construction job to find him. This sensitive drama won the 2025 Ophir Award (Israel's Oscar) for Best Picture.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with writer-director Shai Carmeli-Pollak on Zoom

MONDAY 3/16

7–9 PM
The Future Awaits
Nils Tavernier
2025, France
91 minutes

FEATURE

French with English subtitles

July 1942 roundups of Parisian Jews lead 13-year-old Tauba and her parents to hide in a tiny room, only six square meters wide. They struggle to sustain themselves without being discovered. This suspenseful drama of hope and resilience is based on a true story.

SPOTLIGHT TUESDAY 3/17

7–9:30 PM
Cabaret Total
$18 tickets
Roy Assaf
2024, Israel
90 minutes

FEATURE

Hebrew with English subtitles

A high school drama teacher stages vivid cabaret shows in his Negev town's community center. When he becomes a target of social media rage, he hits back onstage with increasingly virtuosic, unhinged productions. You have never seen a performance like Roy Assaf's in his feature directing debut.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with actor-filmmaker Roy Assaf on Zoom

WEDNESDAY 3/18

1–3 PM
Get the Land Back
Irmy Shik Blum
& Elad Orenstein
2024, Israel, 70 minutes

DOCUMENTARY

Hebrew & English with English subtitles

An Israeli comedian discovers his grandmother passed down a deed to a small plot of land in the West Bank. When he tries to claim it, a humorous odyssey through Israeli bureaucracy ensues. 2024 Ophir Award winner for Best Documentary Feature.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with filmmakers Irmy Shik Blum & Elad Orenstein on Zoom

THURSDAY 3/19

7–9:30 PM
Ethan Bloom
Herschel Faber
2025, USA
95 minutes

FEATURE

English with English subtitles

In this wry comedy, 13-year-old Ethan is torn between his growing attachment to Catholicism and his father's desire to see him bar mitzvahed following his mother's death. Ethan's first love only complicates things further.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with director Herschel Faber, screenwriter Maylen Dominguez, and lead actor Joshua Malina on Zoom

SATURDAY 3/21

9–10:45 PM
The Everything Pot
Sherise Dorf
2024, USA
90 minutes

FEATURE

English with English subtitles

An unexpected wedding invitation and an overeager reply set off an escalating series of misadventures in this multi-generational 21st-Century comedy of manners.

SUNDAY 3/22
CLOSING FILM

3–5:30 PM
You Had to Be There...
$18 tickets
Nick Davis
2025, Canada, 98 minutes

DOCUMENTARY

English (subtitles are not available)

This high-spirited documentary, with an all-star cast of interviews, reveals how a 1972-73 Toronto run of the hippie musical Godspell became an historic incubator for modern comedy.

POST-SCREENING Q&A
with director Nick Davis

Printed film schedule as of January 28, 2026

GET TICKETS NOW!
Visit: jccmw.us/roesch-njjff or scan here >

MetroWest
MALVIN & GRETA ROESCH NEW JERSEY JEWISH FILM FESTIVAL
MARCH 5 – 22, 2026

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE CO-CHAIRS: Joni Cohen & Terri Friedman
FOUNDERS: Caren Ford & Herbert Ford
CURATOR: Vicky Jacobs
FESTIVAL DIRECTOR: Stuart Weinstock

FESTIVAL COMMITTEE

Andrea Bier
Ilene Dorf Manahan
Carol Dranove
Nancy Fisher
Santiago Fuertes
Max Kleinman
Annette Littman
Kathy Loesberg
Abby Meth Kanter
Faye Pollack
Deborah Prinz
Ruth Ross
Evelyn Rothfeld
Sara-Ann Sanders
Rickey Slezak
Lara Stolman
Neimah Tractenberg
Deborah Zuckerman