



Photo © Tom Kates

“I find JWA an indispensable source for students.”

—Educator, reviewing JWA on *Great Nonprofits*

## LIVING THE LEGACY

In 1961, Judy Frieze, a recent graduate of Smith College, committed an act of civil disobedience. Along with hundreds of other young people, the Newton, MA, resident became a Freedom Rider, traveling to Mississippi to protest segregated public accommodations. On June 21, 1961, her racially mixed group of nine was arrested for sitting in the all-white waiting room at the Jackson bus station.

Judy spent the next six weeks in jail, and after her release, went on to become a career activist, continuing her civil rights work, and getting involved in the anti-war and women’s movements.



SMITH COLLEGE graduate, Judith Ann Frieze, 22, of 31 Tamworth rd., Waban, among nine new Freedom Riders under arrest in Jackson, Miss

Arrests Mount to 140

### **Newton Girl Jailed In Mississippi With 8 Freedom Riders**

A 22-year old Newton girl was among nine new "Freedom Riders" who were arrested in Jackson, Miss., yesterday after trying unsuccessfully to desegregate the white waiting room at the Trailways bus terminal.

Judith Ann Frieze of 31 Tamworth rd., Waban, who was graduated this month from Smith College, was one of several whites in the racially-mixed group arrested on a breach of peace charge.

“There has never been any question as to whether the ordeal was worth it,” she wrote after her release from jail. “I believed in a cause—integration—and I have done something about my belief.”

“I endured my prison sentence, and found it almost bearable because I was fighting for a cause in which I believed. And others were fighting with me.”

Judy Frieze, *The Boston Globe*, August 6, 1961

If you search the Jewish Women’s Archive website today for Judy Frieze, you’ll find her name under “Education,” among the primary source documents compiled for teachers, in a copy of an article published in *The Boston Globe* on June 22, 1961. You’ll also find her (under her married name, Judy Frieze Wright) in JWA’s online exhibit, “Women Who Dared.”

Next fall, searching [jwa.org](http://jwa.org) for Judy Frieze will take you to a whole new part of the website. As part of its ongoing commitment to helping educators enrich and expand the narrative of American Jewish history, JWA is developing a curriculum on the role of American Jews in the labor and Civil Rights movements, entitled *Living the Legacy: A Jewish Social Justice Education Project*. Funded in part by the Covenant Foundation, *Living the Legacy* will tell the stories of Judy Frieze and many other Jewish social activists. }

Article about Judy Frieze’s arrest in *The Boston Globe* (June 22, 1961), found on [jwa.org](http://jwa.org)

## BAT MITZVAH INTERACTIVE

When Basia Schwartz was preparing for her bat mitzvah in 2008, she and her mother, Debbie Kardon Schwartz, envisioned personalizing her day with the stories of her grandmothers and great-grandmothers. It was an occasion, they felt, to celebrate not just Basia's biblical foremothers, but the women whose experiences had directly shaped her family's history.

"As Basia finds her way as a young Jewish woman, I want her to have a sense of the women who came before her," Debbie said. "Their stories and wisdom will provide a link ... to our family's past, and as she draws on and passes down this collective knowledge, they will all live on in the generations who come after her."

Unsure how to go about collecting family stories and faced with organizing the bat mitzvah, the Schwartzes reluctantly gave up weaving their family history into Basia's bat mitzvah day. But their idea helped inspire the Jewish Women's Archive's new project, *Bat Mitzvah Interactive (BMI)*.

An online initiative, *BMI* is designed to make the bat mitzvah experience relevant and meaningful to girls and their families and to strengthen girls' personal connection to their Jewish heritage. Through a specially designed website, *BMI* will offer an engaging new way for girls to mark their coming-of-age. With partial funding from the Boston Jewish Community Women's Fund, JWA has begun the development phase of *Bat Mitzvah Interactive*. The new website will launch nationally in 2012. }



Basia Schwartz (center) becoming a bat mitzvah, with her parents, Ken Schwartz and Debbie Kardon Schwartz

## DO YOU

**Love a good laugh?** Get *Making Trouble* on DVD, and enjoy the stories and humor of five groundbreaking Jewish women comedians. Now for sale online at [makingtrouble.com/getthefilm](http://makingtrouble.com/getthefilm).

**Teach in a Jewish school or education program?** Apply to JWA's 2010 Institute for Educators at [jwa.org/institute](http://jwa.org/institute).

**Enjoy historical photos? Have family mementos of World War II?** Visit the prestigious photo sharing site Flickr Commons, to see JWA's collection "Jewish American Women and World War II." [flickr.com/photos/jwacommons/sets](http://flickr.com/photos/jwacommons/sets). To share your own photos and artifacts, see our guidelines at [jwa.org/exhibits/ww2/](http://jwa.org/exhibits/ww2/).

**Have ideas and opinions about issues relating to Jewish women?** Read and comment on JWA's blog, "Jewesses with Attitude." [jwablog.jwa.org](http://jwablog.jwa.org).

## BRINGING IT HOME



"JWA's emphasis on primary sources has really benefited my teaching."

—Alan Rosenberg

Alan Rosenberg, at JWA's 2008 Institute for Educators

Alan Rosenberg's "aha moment" came during a Jewish Women's Archive workshop in spring 2008. Midway through a presentation on teaching with primary sources, Alan suddenly remembered a document in the archives of his congregation, Temple Beth-El in Providence, RI, where he is a temple educator, that would completely change his own teaching.

The document was a 1965 Rosh Hashanah sermon by Rabbi William Braude, who had joined Martin Luther King, Jr. and Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel on the March to Montgomery that year. Rabbi Braude had been struck by how many of the marchers wore kippot, a visible and proud symbol of Judaism. Back at Beth El, which like many Reform temples at the time did not encourage head coverings, he gave a dramatic sermon on the importance of the Civil Rights Movement—and then placed a kippah on his head. He called on the congregation to make kippot part of their community. The sermon became a legend in the temple's history.

Inspired by the JWA workshop, Alan got permission to use Braude's seminal sermon in his classes. "I'm always looking for connections," he explains. "History is not something that happens outside of you; it's something that you're part of. I realized that we had an important primary document right here in our midst that I could use to teach our kids about the important role Jews played in the Civil Rights movement." With the sermon, Alan brought home for his students the impact of the larger historical narrative on their own community. }

**SUPPORT  
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Believe in chronicling the achievements of Jewish women yesterday and today, in order to shape a more inclusive future?

Please support JWA's work by making a donation now at [jwa.org/supportus](http://jwa.org/supportus).

## THE POWER OF OUR STORIES

### JEWISH WOMEN'S ARCHIVE INSTITUTE FOR EDUCATORS

#### July 25-29, 2010

Join the Jewish Women's Archive for four days of intensive professional development designed to enrich your teaching with the compelling stories of American Jewish lives, past and present. The 2010 Institute will focus specifically on the rich and deep history of Jews and social justice activism in America.

A group of Jewish educators from across the country will work with leading scholars and master teachers to:

**INVESTIGATE** themes in Jewish women's history and the history of social movements in the U.S.

**EXAMINE** primary source documents and oral histories

**EXPLORE** multimedia resources, including JWA's new *Living the Legacy* social justice curriculum

**DEVELOP** strategies for using the material with students.

The Institute is open to educators who work with young people (grades 7 and above) in formal and/or informal settings. All expenses, including travel and accommodations, will be covered by a generous grant from the Dorot Foundation.

## HOW TO APPLY

Go to [jwa.org/institute](http://jwa.org/institute) to complete an application.

**Deadline is March 1, 2010.**

"The Institute was the best training or conference I've been to in 20 years of teaching. The teachers were fantastic, the topics relevant, the variety of topics and resources extraordinary."

— 2006 Institute participant



## MAKING TROUBLE ON DVD

*Making Trouble* tells the story of six of the funniest Jewish women of the last century—Molly Picon, Fanny Brice, Sophie Tucker, Joan Rivers, Gilda Radner, and Wendy Wasserstein. Hosted by four of today's Jewish comedians—Judy Gold, Jackie Hoffman, Cory Kahaney, and Jessica Kirson—it's the true saga of what it means to be Jewish, female, and funny.

*Making Trouble* has been screened at more than 130 film festivals and enjoyed by thousands of fans throughout North America. Now you can enjoy it on DVD in your own home. It also makes a wonderful gift! To order, visit [makingtrouble.com/getthefilm](http://makingtrouble.com/getthefilm). }

## VOICES

From a comment on JWA's blog, *Jewesses with Attitude*, by Pamela Greenberg, great-granddaughter of Rosa Sonneschein, editor of the 19th century publication *The American Jewess* ([jwa.org/research/americanjewess](http://jwa.org/research/americanjewess)):

*I am proud to be a great-granddaughter of that great American Jewess, Rosa Fassel Sonneschein. ... She was truly intellectual, beautiful, wily and feisty. What I knew from [my father] was that she smoked cigars, drank tea from a saucer, and told him that "It is just as easy to fall in love with a million dollars, as it is to fall in love with nothing."... She was such an admirable woman and her attributes lend themselves justifiably to idealization. But she was complex, complicated, and conflicted—which is to say that she was human. Yes, her great-granddaughter is very happy to be a Jewess. And SO thankful to be learning more about her and in her own words, through the efforts of the Jewish Women's Archive. }*

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We welcome your comments, questions, and suggestions about IN ACTION. Please contact Rachel King at 617.232.2258, ext. 207, or [RKing@jwa.org](mailto:RKing@jwa.org).

“We found that an organization of people deeply sincere, guided by a vision of what the world might be, and with assurance enough to act, can influence opinion and events...”

— Lillian Wald, 1914