



New Membership Packet

Bienvenidos! Welcome to the Sephardic Community!



The Sephardic Jewish
Brotherhood of America
La Ermandad Sefaradi

Welcome to Our Sephardic Family

Dear Friend,

Bienvenidos! On behalf of the Sephardic Jewish Brotherhood of America, we want to welcome you as a new Member of our community. We are excited to have you join the ranks of the national umbrella organization for Sephardic Jewry in America. Once we receive your initiation fee and annual membership payment, we will issue you a membership file number that will track your registration and ensure all your information is kept accessible by our staff.

Since 1916, the Sephardic Brotherhood has proudly served our Sephardic Community in the United States through employment placement, educational scholarships, bereavement support, funds for the needy, immigration assistance, Holocaust survivor relief, cultural engagement, and so much more. In these uncertain times, know that the Brotherhood continues to stand with you whatever you may need.

We encourage you to learn more about the work we are doing to connect the next generation of young Sephardic Jews together at www.sephardicbrotherhood.com, as well as keep up to date on our Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram pages. We also hope you'll consider getting more involved by volunteering on one of our Community Committees, help us develop innovative programming, or supporting another one of our initiatives.



Joseph J. Toledo
President

COMMUNITY BY THE NUMBERS

MEMBERSHIP

1,300 Families

COMMUNITY AFFILIATIONS

15 Synagogues

EDUCATION

50k in Scholarships

YOUTH

9 Special Initiatives

Organizational Profile



The Sephardic Jewish Brotherhood of America is the largest Sephardic benevolent organization of its kind in the United States. Our mission is to support the financial, social, educational, and religious welfare of Sephardic families who derive their lineage from the Ladino-speaking Jewish communities of Turkey, Greece, and the Balkans. Through a host of services and programs, the Brotherhood is dedicated to caring for and strengthening our Sephardic community.

Today, the Brotherhood is proud to serve over 1,300 member families from across the United States and continues to support the Sephardic community in the spirit laid out by our society's founders. In addition to providing burial services for its members, the Brotherhood has expanded its programs to support the future generations of our community and reinvent what it means to be Sephardic in the 21st Century.

KEY FACTS & FIGURES

- Largest Sephardic benevolent organization in the United States
- Over 100 Years of History serving the Community
- Over a dozen affiliated Sephardic Congregations nationwide
- Scholarship and educational benefits for children
- Sephardic rabbinic & Religious Life Resources
- Sephardic Youth & Young Professional Development
- International Community Engagement

YOUR MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Every full member of the Sephardic Brotherhood is entitled to both our **core benefits** along with our wonderful **social benefits**. These benefits can touch on all stages of a members life and are here to make sure our Sephardic Community is supported and cared for. It is important to note that these specific benefits are not extended to those who take the status of social membership (membership without benefits).

HEVRA KEDISHA BURIAL SOCIETY

Every full member is guaranteed a burial plot for themselves, their spouse, and Barminan (G-d forbid) a child under the age of 18. This includes the right to be buried in any of our national cemeteries, along with special mortuary and monument benefits issued at the time of a members' passing to their next of kin to help defray the cost of a funeral. This also includes access to our national network of Sephardic Rabbis & Clergy to make sure members have both the emotional support they need during a difficult time along with someone to conduct a funeral service in our Sephardic tradition.

SEPHARDIC SCHOLARS PROGRAM

Since our founding, the Brotherhood has worked to ensure our youngest members never see money as an impediment to their educational goals. Our Scholarship & Education Committee awards financial scholarships annually to High School, College, and Graduate students based on academic achievement and financial need. Every member and their children are guaranteed the rights to apply for scholarships for up to four years to help pay for the cost of advancing their education

HENRY J. PERAHIA FUNDS FOR THE NEDDY

Should a member ever, G-d forbid, fall on hard times, the Sephardic Brotherhood is here to support you. Through our Henry J. Perahia Funds for the Needy, we issue financial support for members who cannot afford to pay rent, buy groceries, or need help with medical expenses. This also includes special access for those who cannot afford to send their children to our summer Sephardic Adventure Camp or celebrate the Jewish High Holidays properly.



SOCIAL BENEFITS

In addition to our core benefits, full members have a wide access to our social benefits throughout the United States. These benefits are also available to our social members (members without benefits).

All members have the right to discounted rates for our **Spanish & Portuguese Citizenship Program**, guaranteeing them our Certificate of Sephardic Heritage which helps attest to their Sephardic identity and Jewish status. Members receive discounted rates at our public events such as our **International Ladino Day**, and receive our print Newsletter **The Brother** to help them stay in the loop on what's happening in the community. Member's children can also access many of our youth programs including our **Sephardic Birthright Trip to Israel** and **Young Professionals Network**. Our members also have access to our **network of more than 15 Sephardic Synagogues** and community institutions nationwide.

SEPHARDIC DIGITAL ACADEMY

Our new Sephardic Digital Academy - a national partnership to connect and educate our Sephardic community institutions, synagogues, Rabbis, educators, and members across the United States, has revolutionized Sephardic education in the United States. We are partnering with more than a dozen affiliated synagogues and institutions to bring you new weekly classes and series on **Sephardic Torah, History, traditions and customs, Ladino language instruction, Sephardic cooking, and so much more.**

"Brilliant. The Sephardic Digital Academy is a remarkable and innovative way of revitalizing our culture and heritage. Well done!"

All classes are **FREE** and open to all, with participation via zoom and live-streamed on our Facebook Page and Youtube Channel.



Youth Engagement

DISCOVER HOW WE SUPPORT OUR NEXT GENERATION



SEPHARDIC BIRTHRIGHT
TRIP



SEPHARDIC YOUNG
PROFESSIONALS



CHILDREN'S DIGITAL
PROGRAMMING

We are proud to offer a number of engagement initiatives to empower our next generation of Sephardic Leaders. Through the **Greek Jewish Young Professional Network**, our leaders in their 20s & 30s organize monthly Sephardic Shabbat dinners throughout the country, Professional Development programs, Sephardic Cooking Classes, and a whole lot more. This includes a special Young Professionals **Tour of Jewish Greece**, exploring the cities of their grandparents and reconnecting with their heritage. Through our **FREE Sephardic Birthright Trip to Israel**, Sephardim from 18-26 get to reconnect with their Jewish roots and discover the incredibly rich Sephardic history of Israel.

From trying delicious Sephardic foods and learning new Ladino words, to rafting down the Jordan River and hiking Masada, our trip participants get the chance to have a life-changing experience. Our **digital programming for Young Sephardic Families** gets our kriaturas (kids) excited about their identity, teaching Ladino words, Sephardic customs, and fun songs with famous educators like Sarah Aroeste. Lastly, through the amazing **Sephardic Adventure Camp**, our affiliated Jewish camp in the Pacific Northwest, our children get to have an amazing summer experience while learning to become Jewish leaders. This beautiful center of Sephardic and Jewish pride invites over 100 kids between 8-16 every summer.

Membership Responsibilities Dues & Elections



Membership fees are due at the beginning of the year for both full and social members of the Sephardic Brotherhood. Members receive due notifications via mail and should send in a check for \$65 within a month of receiving a notification. Failure to do so can result in a member's expulsion from the Sephardic Brotherhood, so it's important to submit your dues on time.



Members are responsible to vote in our national elections every four years for our Central Council (Board of Directors) and receive ballots to their home addresses. All full members also have the right to run and hold office in the Sephardic Brotherhood after a three year waiting period from joining our Sephardic Community. Members are also responsible to update our central offices if they move to a new residence, change phone numbers, emails, or other important contact information. Members should also share if they're excited new announcements in their families, such as a wedding, new family member, or other important events that we can celebrate together as a Sephardic Community. Lastly, members are responsible to get involved in our community in any way they can! Consider joining one of our committees or organizing a new community event.





HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

The Sephardic Brotherhood is proud of all the amazing work we've been able to accomplish, yet there is still a lot of good work that can be done. This is why we need your help to get our community to the next level.

Consider making a Gift to one of our key new initiatives to help ensure our community continues to grow and flourish. Help us bring on new Jewish professionals that can ensure a robust, strong, and warm Kommunita Sefaradi (Sephardic Community) for years to come.

Interested in supporting the Brotherhood in the future? Consider making a legacy or estate commitment to solidify your impact on our community for generations to come. You can donate today via our website at www.sephardicbrotherhood.com or email info@sephardicbrotherhood.com to speak with a member of our team.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

We value your feedback and new ideas! Consider proposing a new program, class, or new event. Interested in finding out more about our strategic plan and general programming? Have a new proposal? Reach out to us! Email info@sephardicbrotherhood.com

GET INVOLVED

Volunteerism is an integral part of our community. Consider volunteering for any of our numerous committees, events, or annual programs that help makes the Sephardic Brotherhood go above and beyond. Email us at info@sephardicbrotherhood.com to get started.

Scholarship & Education Committee
Young Families Committee
Membership Committee
Young Professionals Committee
Constitution Committee
Communications & Engagement Committee



2020 | 5781 — SEPHARDIC JEWISH BROTHERHOOD OF AMERICA —

*"Over 100 Years of Service to the
Sephardic Community"*



Sephardic Jewish Brotherhood of America

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