



JGSGW May Meeting

Sunday, May 6, 2018

1917: A Turning Point in American Jewish History

**National Museum of Jewish Military History
1811 R St. NW, Washington, DC. 20009**

12PM: *Time to explore the museum collection*

1:30 PM: *“World War One and American Jewry: The Meaning of 1917”*

Speaker: Professor Hasia Diner

12PM Chartered by an act of Congress in 1958, the National Museum of American Jewish Military History, under the auspices of the Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A, documents and preserves the contributions of Jewish Americans to the peace and freedom of the United States, educates the public concerning the courage, heroism and sacrifices made by Jewish Americans who served in the armed forces, and works to combat anti-Semitism. Museum admission is free.



1:30 PM Although the United States participated in World War One only briefly, from April 1917 until November 1918, it had a tremendous impact upon its Jews. It left a mark on their immigration patterns, and impacted Jewish family life. It helped them define the importance of being American Jews as opposed to still living in their European homes and it helped breach divides within the American Jewish population. Additionally, through the chaplaincy service, it forged the way for the interfaith work that flourished in

later decades and which made religion in America distinctive.

Hasia Diner is the Paul S. and Sylvia Steinberg Professor of American Jewish History at New York University, with a joint appointment in the departments of history and the Skirball Department of Hebrew and Judaic Studies. She is also the Director of the Goren Center for American Jewish History.

A specialist in immigration and ethnic history, American Jewish history and the history of American women, she is the author of numerous published books on American Jewish history. Most recently Yale University Press published *Roads Taken: The Great Jewish Migration and the Peddlers Who Led the Way*, which will be the subject of her JGSGW sponsored talk on May 7 at the Library of Congress. She lectures widely, in the United States and abroad to both academic and community audiences on various topics involving American immigration history and American Jewish history.