

# PLAYBILL

## MEGILLAH MADNESS! ON BROADWAY



CONGREGATION BETH EL OF MONTGOMERY COUNTY  
MARCH 24, 2005

**M**ore than 2000 years ago, the Jewish people in Babylonia were doing quite well. Although many had returned to the Land of Israel four years earlier to begin rebuilding the Second Temple, the majority chose to remain in Persia. Life was good, and the Jews were moving up the social ladder. And then, in the blink of an eye, a madman named Haman came to power. Fear and despair filled the hearts of the Jews. And at that darkest hour, when the Jews were on the verge of complete destruction, it was left to one brave, intelligent, and beautiful Jewish woman and one wise and stubborn Jewish man to change the course of Jewish history.

**This is their story . . .**

## **Capital Campaign Song**

### **"The New Beth El"**

Congregation Beth El's Executive Board

Brent Berger, President ■ Gail Ross, Executive Vice President

Judy Futterman, VP Strategic Oversight

Leesa Fields, VP Education ■ Peter Novick, VP Spirituality

Phyllis Solomon, VP Community

Shelly London, VP Development and Finance

Walter Arnheim, Treasurer ■ Tami Simon, Secretary

# Megillah Madness

## Introduction

### **"Another Op'nin', Another Show"**

Shushan Shleppers

Judy Baldinger ■ Sandy Cohen ■ Judy Goldman  
Rhoda Nichaman ■ Holly Stein

## Chapter 1

Hebrew Reader ■ Hazzan Abe Lubin

### **"Goodbye, Vashti"**

The OutofTuners

Sam Boxerman ■ Michael Feinstein ■ Craig Futterman  
Sid Getz ■ Scott Glick ■ Evan Krame  
Steve Solomon

### **"I'm Gonna Wash That King Right outa My Hair"**

Suavetz

Brenda Bregman ■ Debbie Cohn ■  
Marilyn Hammerman ■ Marge London ■ Debbie Pollack  
Barbara Klein ■ Elizabeth Simon

## **Chapter 2**

Hebrew Reader ■ Micah Hendler

### **"Shushan Nights"**

Horahmones

Isabel Barr ■ Eric Eisenstein ■ Meryl Feinstein  
Joel Finbloom ■ David Fink ■ Jenny Fink  
Katie Friedman ■ Micah Hendler ■ Reuben Hendler  
Adam Hoffman ■ Gabriella Kahn ■ Sarah Krame  
Kara Landsman ■ Ruthie Levine

## **Chapter 3**

Hebrew Reader ■ Ariel Leonard

### **Purim High School Cheerleaders**

Ilana Berger ■ Emily Rosenthal  
Jeannie Spiegel ■ Julia Spiegel

### **"Oy, What a Horrible Mornin'"**

Persian Cowpokes

Jonina Duker ■ Judy Futterman ■ Henry Kahn  
Michael Kay ■ Tricia Sachs ■ Alan Simon

## **Chapter 4**

Hebrew Reader ■ Sarah Krame

### **Purim High School Cheerleaders**

#### **"Faith"**

Hebrew Nationals

Barbara Cohen ■ Daniel Geslowitz ■ Marsha Rehns  
Gail Ross ■ Joan Simon ■ Joel Simon

## **Chapter 5**

Hebrew Reader ■ David Fink

#### **"I Feel Vicious"**

Haman, Zaresh, and Sons

Sani Barr ■ Hazzan Abe Lubin  
Micah Hendler ■ Reuben Hendler

## Chapter 6

Hebrew Reader ■ Mira Kahn

### "Let's Honor Mordy"

Doolittles

Pat Danoff ■ Erwin Groner ■ Paul Haar ■ Shelly London  
Leslie Shedlin ■ Jana Singer ■ Phyllis Solomon

### "Tomorrow"

Orphans Gone Bad

Gina Amsellem ■ Ronni Getz ■ Matthew Litman  
Danielle Novick ■ Samantha Reback  
Simone Roark ■ Hannah Sherman  
Shoshanna Sherman ■ Alison Silverstein  
Amanda Silverstein ■ Tanya Silverstein

## Chapter 7

Hebrew Reader ■ Joshua Lieberman

### "Haman Is Dead"

Haman and the Munchkins

Sasha Berger ■ Sarah Besnainou ■ Sarah Cutler  
Alexandra Fishman ■ Leigh Fishman ■ Michelle Isaacs  
Hannah Jerison ■ Margaret Kay ■ Elana Leone  
Talia Levinas ■ Simone Levine ■ Cameron Lynn  
Abigail Pine ■ Dana Reback ■ Helen Rosenthal  
Laura Scavo ■ Hannah Sherman ■ Tanya Silverstein  
Edward Simon ■ Naomi Solkowitz

Esther and Mordechai

Ruthie Levine ■ David Solkowitz

## Chapter 8

Hebrew Reader ■ Adam Hoffman

### "Esther"

Esther and her Harem

Lori Amsellem ■ Ed Berger ■ Leslie Dellon ■ Leesa Fields  
Lisa Handelsman ■ Helene Weisz ■ Janyse Weisz



## Chapter 9

Hebrew Reader ■ Marc Rudolph

### **"We Got Esther"**

Grateful Dead Sea Scrollers

Matthew Jacobson ■ Peter Novick ■ Shelley Reback  
David Solkowitz ■ Rachelle Solkowitz ■ Diane Sondheimer

## Chapter 10

Hebrew Reader ■ Gabriella Kahn

### **"There's No People Like Our People"**

Beth ELegants

Gail Fribush ■ Rabbi Greg Harris ■ Rebekah Harris  
Bucky Jacobson ■ Rob Judson ■ Jacquelyn Levine  
Sarah Roark ■ Rabbi Bill Rudolph

# Megillah Madness Crew

## Director

Judy Futterman

## Assistant Directors

Howard Hoffman ■ Sally Pessin ■ Mitchell Solkowitz

## Group Coordinators

Debbie Fink (older teens) ■ Ruth Silverstein (younger teens)  
Bruce Spiegel (cheerleaders) ■ Dorene Rosenthal (sign carriers)

## Group Leaders

Lori Amsellem ■ Sani Barr ■ Brenda Bregman  
Barbara Cohen ■ Pat Danoff ■ Gail Fribush  
Sid Getz ■ Rachelle Solkowitz ■ Holly Stein

## Director, Shir Atid

(Haman and the Munchkins)

Elizabeth Simon

## Lyricists

**Chief:** Sally Pessin

**Chief's Assistant:** Howard Hoffman

Judy Baldinger ■ Stan Baldinger ■ Sandy Cohen ■ Judy Futterman  
Dan Geselowitz ■ Marsha Rehns ■ Alan Simon ■ Bruce Spiegel

## Technical Coordinator and Videographer

**Chair:** Mitchell Solkowitz

**Chair's Assistant:** Melissa Kahn

Bernie Friedman ■ David Goodfriend ■ Bucky Jacobson  
Michael Kay ■ Mark Melnicoff ■ Barry Levine  
Bruce Spiegel ■ Jonathan Stone

## **Narrators**

Melissa Zissman ■ Sharon Zissman

## **Musicians**

Jerry Danoff ■ Sid Getz ■ Bob Litman  
Andy Schoenholtz ■ Alan Simon

## **Tap Dancers**

Sasha Berger ■ Allison Silverstein

## **Program Cover Design**

Annette Abrams

## **Costume Design for Shir Atid**

Rachelle Solkowitz

## **Decorations**

**Chair:** Tamar Fishman

**Chair's Assistant:** Alisa Lipkind

Craig Futterman ■ Judy Futterman ■ Michelle Hainbach  
Michael Kay ■ Susan Kitt ■ Susan Levine  
Debbie Olchyk ■ Dora Weinstein ■ Esther Wilner

## **Playbill**

**Chair:** Glenda Koby

Judy Goldman ■ Marsha Rehns

## **Sign Carriers**

Ben Berger ■ Dylan Cernea ■ Daniel Crystal  
William Crystal ■ David Isaacs ■ Lily Jacobson  
Leora Korn ■ Hannah Lenkin ■ Joseph Levine ■ Ariel Plotnick  
Sam Rosenthal ■ Ben Simon ■ Aliza Sitrin  
Chloe Sitrin ■ Aviva Solkowitz

## **Bubble Blowers**

Joseph Levine ■ Ben Simon  
Naomi Solkowitz ■ Julia Spiegel

## **Advertising**

Pam Kocher

## **Audio-Video**

Audio-Video Freelancers

A special thank you to Pam Kocher, Sheila Bellack, and  
the Beth El office staff for their able help and willing assistance!

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# Megillah Madness Songbook

## **The New Beth El**

Parody of "Comedy Tonight" from "A Funny Thing Happened on the  
Way to the Forum"

Something midrashic,  
Something halachic,  
Something for everyone,  
It's in the new Beth El!

Hall for our simchas,  
Chapel for mincha,  
Windows that catch the sun,  
They're in the new Beth El!

You've given funds,  
More must be asked,  
We need your help to finish the task!

Ancient traditions,  
Modern renditions,  
Find yiddishkeit in many ways,  
For all Beth El's tomorrows,  
Be generous today!

## **Another Purim, Another Shpiel**

Parody of "Another Op'nin', Another Show" from "Kiss Me, Kate"

Another Purim, another shpiel  
Here at Beth El, such a big deal,  
Songs of Esther and Mordechai,  
Of Ahashverosh and that...rotten guy.

A story's told of events old,  
A tale of courage will now unfold,  
A plot defeated to set things right,  
And now we sing of that...glorious night.

Four weeks, we rehearse and rehearse,  
Three weeks, it couldn't be worse,  
One week, will it ever be right?  
Then all of a sudden, it's...Purim night.

With heroes, villains, King and Queen,  
The downfall of a fiendish fiend,  
Dangers great, events sublime,  
The Jews are rescued in the...nick of time.

Megillah Madness is about to start,  
So grab your grogger and do your part,  
Shout out loud, and show your zeal,  
It's another Purim...another Purim...another Beth El shpiel.

## Goodbye, Vashti

Parody of "Hello, Dolly!" from "Hello Dolly!"

He said, goodbye, Vashti,  
Pack your bags, Vashti,  
It's too bad that Shushan ain't where you belong,

You had your chance, Vashti,  
Shoulda danced, Vashti,  
Shoulda pranced and glanced,  
And kept all of the boys entranced.

Now you're de-queened, Vashti,  
By decree, Vashti,  
That is what we need  
To keep the wives in line.

So, take her crown, fellas,  
Run her right out of town, fellas,  
Vashti has got to go away from here.

I said, goodbye, Vashti,  
This is the King, Vashti,  
It's too bad my palace ain't where you belong.

You had your chance, Vashti,  
Shoulda danced, Vashti,  
Shoulda pranced and glanced,  
And kept all of my boys entranced.

Now you're de-queened, Vashti,  
By decree, Vashti,  
That is what we need  
To keep the wives in line.

So: take her crown, fellas,  
Run her right out of town, fellas,  
Vashti, you've got to go away,

Vashti, you've got to go away,  
Vashti, you've got to go away from here.

## **I'm Gonna Wash That King Right outa My Hair**

Parody of "I'm Gonna Wash That Man Right outa My Hair"  
from "South Pacific"

I'm gonna wash that King right outa my hair.  
She's gonna wash that King right outa her hair.  
She's gonna wash that King right outa her hair.  
And I'm not gonna stay.

I'm gonna dance my way right outa this place.  
She's gonna dance her way right outa this place.  
She's gonna dance her way right outa this place.  
And live my life my way.

I'm not here to amuse.  
All he does is abuse.  
Why do we need this King?

He's no good, he's just mean.  
We must have democracy!  
Yea, sister!

I went and washed that King right outa my hair.  
She went and washed that King right outa her hair.  
She went and washed that King right outa her hair.  
And now I'm on my way.

She went and danced her way right outa this place.  
She went and danced her way right outa this place.  
She went and danced her way right outa this place.  
This is a bright new day!

## Shushan Nights

Parody of "Summer Nights" from "Grease"

Hey, Advisors, go 'round the land.  
Hey, everyone, I hear there's a plan.  
I need a girl, she'll be my Queen,  
All young girls must meet the King,  
Schoolgirl days driftin' away,  
To uh-oh those Shushan nights.

Find a Queen, find a Queen,  
Tell us what should we know?  
Meet the King, meet the King,  
Off to Shushan you go.

Make sure she's cute, that's my decree.  
Who would think this could happen to me?  
Most important, she must be young.  
I'll try hard to be the one.  
Shushan sun, something's begun,  
But uh-oh those Shushan nights.

Meet the King, meet the King,  
Get made up so you glow.  
Find a Queen, find a Queen,  
Our reality show.

Her religion, could not care less.  
Should I tell him, I'm a Jewess?  
Cute and young, get those things right,  
I'll do my best to be polite.  
Hope that he thinks I'm pretty,  
And uh-oh those Shushan nights.

Find a Queen, find a Queen,  
We don't care if she'll pray.  
Meet the King, meet the King,  
You're a Jew, but don't say.  
I'm sure he'll be kindly to me.



One more thing, can she party?  
We'll take walks. I'll try to be fun.  
Did I mention, she's got to be young?  
I would be an obedient Queen.  
And uh-oh those Shushan nights.

Meet the King, meet the King,  
Hope he gives her a chance.  
Find a Queen, find a Queen,  
Let's pick one who will dance.

My dear King, I hope that I'll do.  
I think I could get used to you.  
I'll remember that I'm a Jew.  
Got my Queen, I'm happy it's you.

Now it seems, we'll live our dreams,  
But, oh, those Shushan nights  
Found a Queen, found a Queen.

## **Oy, What a Horrible Mornin'**

Parody of "Oh, What a Beautiful Mornin'" from "Oklahoma"

There's a bright golden haze over Shushan,  
There's a bright golden haze over Shushan,  
The Jews won't bow down—it's the King they defy,  
So it looks like it's curtains for ol' Mordechai.

Oh, what a beautiful mornin',  
Oh, what a beautiful day.  
I've got a beautiful feelin',  
The Jews will be history today.

All the Jews in Shushan gather round here,  
We could be six feet under the ground dear,  
We trust Mordechai, he's a heckuva guy,  
And he won't bow down, no matter how hard they try.

Oy, what a horrible mornin',  
I can't believe what I see.  
Haman convinced Ahashverosh,  
To issue this awful decree.

Happy days will be here with the Jews gone.  
How could Haman be Chief Prince of Shushan?  
He lied and he bribed so the King would oblige,  
I can hear the Jews weepin' to spare them their lives.

Oy, what a horrible mornin',  
Oh, what a beautiful day,  
I've got a beautiful feelin'  
The Jews will be history today.

Oy, what a horrible day.

## Faith

Parody of "Heart" from "Damn Yankees"

You gotta have faith,  
Chutzpah and a lot of faith.  
Since you have to save your people from harm,  
Turn on your charm  
And grace.

Have you read the decree?  
This is lookin' bad to me.  
Haman wants to kill us, like it or not.  
Now you're on the spot,  
You see.

Jewish luck is battin' zero  
(Oy, oy, oy!)  
And we never seem to score  
(We can't score.)  
Esther, you can be a hero,  
(Rah, rah, rah!)  
And be loved forever more.

There is no question,  
You're the best one.

Tell the King you're a Jew.  
Kid, we're counting on you.  
Oh, we know you've got a gigantic task,  
So we're gonna fast  
For you.  
What would the matriarchs do?

Let me ask you who knows?  
That's the way that life goes.  
Esther maybe you are the queen,  
Cause it was foreseen  
For you.  
Esther, pull us all through

Jewish luck won't stay at zero.  
(Hum, hum, hum)  
Maybe this time we can score.  
(Hum, hum, hum)  
Esther, you will be a hero,  
(Hum, hum, hum)  
And be loved for evermore.  
There is no question  
You're the best one.

You gotta have faith,  
Chutzpah and a lot of faith,  
Since you have to save your people from harm,  
Turn on your charm  
And grace.

Oh, what's the use of kvetching?  
Don't waste your time,  
It's Megillah Madness,  
It'll turn out fine.

And because we're Jews,  
We've got faith,

We've, got faith,  
We've got faith!

## **I Feel Vicious**

Parody of "I Feel Pretty" from "West Side Story"

I feel vicious,  
Oh, so vicious,  
I feel vicious, malicious, and great!  
And pernicious,  
I will hang Mordechai, I can't wait.

I feel nasty,  
Oh, so nasty,  
It's fantastic how nasty I feel.  
And so vicious,  
I will kill all the Jews, it's ideal.

I'm Prime Minister of the Kingdom here,  
Jews won't bow, I can't let that be.  
Such a vicious man,  
Such a vicious Prince,  
Such a vicious plan,  
Such a vicious me!

I feel stunning,  
And entrancing,  
Feel like running and dancing for joy,  
For I love  
Casting lots for the date I'll destroy!

My husband Haman is a rich man,  
Whatever he wants he'll go buy,  
He had to be Prince, so he bought it,  
He can't have the Jews, so of course they must die.

He taught us to hate,  
And how to do bad,  
He'll teach us to kill,

Our wonderful dad.

I feel vicious,  
Oh, so vicious,  
My big wish is to rid us of Jews.  
It's ambitious,  
Finally I will win, and they'll lose.

La la la la .....

I feel vile,  
I feel morbid,  
Genocidal and sordid and mean.  
That's my style,  
Who else could devise such a scheme?

I'm Prime Minister of the Kingdom, here.  
Our daddy, dear,  
Jews won't bow, I can't let that be.  
Such a vicious man,  
Such a vicious Prince,  
Such a vicious plan,  
Such a vicious me!

I feel stunning,  
And entrancing,  
Feel like running and dancing for joy.  
For I love  
Casting lots for the date I'll destroy!

## **Tomorrow**

Parody of "Tomorrow" from "Annie"

The Jews will be saved,  
Tomorrow,  
Bet your bottom dollar,  
On tomorrow,  
That's our day!

A hero will rise,  
Tomorrow,  
So we gotta hang on,  
'Til tomorrow,  
Come what may.

Tomorrow! Tomorrow!  
No Haman, tomorrow,  
Queen Esther will save the day!

Tomorrow! Tomorrow!  
No Haman, tomorrow!  
Queen Esther will save the day!

## **Let's Honor Mordy in the Morning**

Parody of "Get Me to the Church on Time" from "My Fair Lady"

Oh, what a plan you gave me, Haman!  
We'll honor Mordechai today!  
Dress him in my gown,  
Ride him around town,  
We need a party anyway.

Let's honor Mordy in the morning,  
Make sure we treat him like a king,  
Give him a gold crown,  
Ev'ryone bow down,  
And find some girls to dance and sing.

Haman you'll lead him,  
Shushan will cheer,  
We'll promenade him,  
Order extra beer!

So, let's honor Mordy in the morning,  
Remind me to decree a holiday,  
Pull out the stopper,  
Let's have a whopper,

L'chaim, Mordechai,  
Long life, Mordechai,  
L'chaim, Mordechai the Jew,  
Hooray!

Let's honor Mordy in the morning,  
Make sure you treat him like a king,  
I owe him my life,  
And also your wife  
And find some girls to dance and sing.

Haman, you'll lead him,  
Shushan will cheer,  
We'll promenade him,  
Don't forget that beer!

So let's honor Mordy in the morning,  
We'll decree a Shushan holiday!  
Pull out the stopper,  
Let's have a whopper,

L'chaim, Mordechai,  
Long life, Mordechai,  
L'chaim, Mordechai the Jew,  
Hooray!

## **Ding Dong! Haman is Dead**

Parody of "Ding Dong, The Witch Is Dead" from "The Wizard of Oz"

Ding Dong! Haman is dead,  
The Wicked Prince,  
BOOO! HISSSS!  
Ding Dong,  
The Wicked Prince is dead.

The King killed  
Haman instead.  
The Jews are saved,

The King has said,  
We're saved.  
The Wicked Prince is dead!

His own noose  
Is where he died,  
Up high, up high, up high.  
Mordechai,  
Esther the Queen,  
Celebrate and sing.

Ding Dong,  
The merry-oh,  
Sing it high,  
Sing it low,  
Let them know,  
The Wicked Prince is dead!

## Esther

Parody of "Mame" from "Mame"

You charmed the king right off of the throne, Esther,  
You saved the Jews, you did, on your own, Esther.

You've got the whole tribe kvellin',  
And shlepping nachas that you wear the crown

Your book will be top sellin' in  
Every shul and shtetl all around.

You've got the Jews in Shushan singing, Esther,  
While Haman's on his gallows swinging, Esther,  
You are our ashat chayal, a  
Jewish Queen, no one could be better,  
You've made us feel alive again,  
Thanks to you we will survive again,  
Am Yisrael Chai again, Esther.



Looks like no bad guys left to draw lots, Esther,  
Thanks to you they are the ones who went plotz, Esther.

That we should live to see it,  
The first Jewish Queen in history.

You'll see one hundred twenty. Why  
All Jews love you is no mystery.

You've got the Jews in Shushan singing, Esther,  
While Haman's on his gallows swinging, Esther,  
You are our ashat chayal, a  
Jewish Queen, no one could be better,  
You've made us feel alive again,  
Thanks to you we will survive again,  
Am Yisrael Chai again, Esther.

## **We Got Esther**

Parody of "I Got Rhythm" from "Girl Crazy"

We got Esther,  
We got vict'ry,  
We got Purim,  
Who could ask for anything more?

Here in Persia,  
We have triumphed,  
Esther saved us,  
Who could ask for anything more?

Wicked Haman, he's been vanquished,  
No more anguish  
'Round our door.

And our favorite  
Hamantaschen,  
Filled with poppy,  
Who could ask for anything more?

Who could ask for anything more?

Read the story:

Whole Megillah,

Sound the groggers.

Who could ask for anything more?

We're so grateful,

Sweet young Esther

Saved her people.

Who could ask for anything more?

Uncle Mordy,

When he came in,

He chased Haman

Out the door.

And remember,

Hamantaschen,

Lots of fillings.

Who could ask for anything more?

Who could ask for anything more?

We got Esther,

We got vict'ry,

We got Purim,

Who could ask for anything more?

Here in Persia,

We have triumphed,

Esther saved us,

Who could ask for anything more?

Wicked Haman,

He's been vanquished,

No more anguish

'Round our door.

And our favorite

Hamantaschen,

Filled with poppy,  
Who could ask for anything more?  
Who could ask for anything more?

## **There's No People Like Our People**

"There's No Business Like Show Business" from "Annie Get Your Gun"

There's no people like our people  
Like no people we know!  
Everything about us is a miracle,  
From 4000 years until today!  
It's no wonder why we get so lyrical  
And hysterical, that's just our way.

There's no people like our people  
No one can keep us low.  
Even when a goon like Haman comes along.  
And does all he can to do us wrong.  
We know we'll outlive him and we'll sing our song.  
Let's go on with the show.

From Pharaoh to Haman and the Philistines,  
Each of them a ruthless fiendish foe,  
To Moses and Esther and all of our great Kings,  
In every age there rises a hero.  
Ben Gurion and Herzl and Rabin  
Created Yisrael, they kept the dream.

There's no shul like our shul,  
That's like Beth El we know.  
We've got members who do everything.  
A Cantor who inspires us to sing,  
We've got Rabbis who can dance and swing,  
We're even building another wing.  
Hooray!

There's no people like our people,  
No one can keep us low.

They tried to kill us but we won, let's eat,  
We're the people who will not be beat,  
That's the story of our history,  
We'll go on with the show!

There's no people like our people,  
No one can keep us low.  
They tried to kill us but we won, let's eat,  
We're the people who will not be beat,  
That's the special story of our history,  
We'll go on with the show!  
We'll go on with the show!

## Reprise

There's no people like our people,  
No one can keep us low.  
They tried to kill us but we won, let's eat,  
We're the people who can't be beat,  
That's the story of our history,  
Am Yisrael Chai!

There's no people like our people,  
No one can keep us low.  
They tried to kill us but we won, let's eat,  
We're the people who can't be beat,  
That's the story of our history,  
Oh, Am Yisrael Chai!  
Am Yisrael Chai!





