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***Celebrate the Season With Lively Mah Jongg Events
Held In Conjunction with Acclaimed Exhibition, Project Mah Jongg
Now Extended Through February 27 By Popular Demand
at the Museum of Jewish Heritage—A Living Memorial to the Holocaust***

New York, NY—This winter the **Museum of Jewish Heritage – A Living Memorial to the Holocaust** will be offering festive mah jongg related programming in conjunction with the wildly popular exhibit, **Project Mah Jongg**, now extended through February 27.

On **Wednesday, December 15**, the Museum will once again present ***The Future Mah Jongg Players of Majestic Isles***, an original comedy written for the Museum. **Sunday, December 26** will be devoted to ***Mah Jongg Mania***, a day of programming that will include film screenings, mah jongg games, and arts and crafts for children.

Tickets to ***The Future Mah Jongg Players of Majestic Isles*** are \$15, \$12 for seniors and students, and \$10 for members. Tickets are available online at www.mjhnyc.org or by calling the Museum box office at 646.437.4202. Tickets for ***Mah Jongg Mania*** are free with Museum admission and can be picked up at the admissions desk on the day of the program.

About the Programs

Wednesday, December 15, 7 P.M.

The Future Mah Jongg Players of Majestic Isles

Enjoy an evening of comedy and stories about mah jongg and the people who are crazy about it, featuring comedians Cory Kahaney and Eddie Sarfaty, and hosted by self-proclaimed “Oriental Yenta” Esther Goodhart. This original comedy, created for the Museum, is back by popular demand.

Cory Kahaney is best known from the first season of *Last Comic Standing* (NBC). She has been seen as the comedy coach on *Nick at Nite*, the *Funniest Mom in America* series, and her own standup special on *Comedy Central Presents*. Cory’s most recent success was her critically acclaimed off-Broadway production, *The J.A.P Show: The Princesses of Comedy*. Kahaney performed at the Museum of Jewish Heritage last year in a collaborative comedic theater work called *Pastrami on Rye...With Mayo*, which was selected for the opening night gala of the 2009 Chutzpah! Festival.

Esther Goodhart is a comedian. She is a host of the syndicated program *Asian America* and is known as the Oriental Yenta. She teaches Hebrew at three temples, and she ran unsuccessfully for the Demarest (NJ) Town Council as a Republican.

Comedian and writer **Eddie Sarfaty** has appeared on *The Today Show*, *Nightline*, and on Comedy Central’s *Premium Blend*. He is a regular at Caroline’s and Gotham Comedy Club in New York and has performed at Montreal’s Just for Laughs Comedy Festival, New York’s Toyota Comedy Festival and at

festivals in Columbus, Detroit, Miami, Phoenix, and Washington, D.C. In addition he has been a featured performer for Atlantis Cruises, Aquafest Cruises, Romance Voyages, and RSVP Vacations. Recently Eddie's short story, "Second Guessing Grandma," received critical acclaim when it appeared in the bestselling anthology *When I Knew* by Regan Books, a division of Harper Collins. Since 2003 he has been on the faculty of The Theatre Lab in Washington, D.C., where he teaches workshops on comedy writing and performing. Eddie recently signed a book deal with Kensington Press and is also working on several projects as a writer/performer for Logo.

Join us in the gallery for mah jongg pick-up games starting at 5 P.M.

\$15, \$12 students/seniors, \$10 members

Sunday, December 26

Mah Jongg Mania

Bring friends and family for a day of festivities including mah jongg games, craft activities, film screenings of *The Joy Luck Club* and *Mah-Jongg: The Tiles that Bind*, exhibition tours, and more.

Film screenings

11 a.m. and 2:30 p.m. *Mah-Jongg: The Tiles that Bind* (1998, 32 min.). This film is a light-hearted yet deeply moving portrait of the Asian- and Jewish-American women who play this centuries-old game. It explores the shared experiences of the players and their families, and chronicles the very social aspect of the game — food, camaraderie, gossip, and most importantly, the life-long bonds that form between its players.

11:45 a.m. and 3 p.m. *The Joy Luck Club* (1993, 139 min.). Based on the best-selling book by Amy Tan, this emotional film follows four Chinese women born in the United States who struggle to understand their Chinese-born mothers.

1 P.M.-3 P.M. Mah jongg games

Co-sponsored by the National Mah Jongg League

11 P.M. -1 P.M. and 2 P.M. -4 P.M. Craft activities

For kids ages 3 to 10.

For complete details and a schedule of the day's events, visit www.projectmahjongg.com.

All activities are free with purchase of Museum admission

About the Exhibition

Project Mah Jongg, is now **extended through February 27**. The exhibition, a favorite of visitors and critics alike, explores how the game of mah jongg has ignited the imagination with its beautiful tiles, mythical origins, and communal spirit since the 1920s. Come learn the history and meaning of the beloved game that became a Jewish-American tradition. Visit www.projectmahjongg.com for more information.

This exhibition is made possible through the generosity of the National Mah Jongg League. Additional support provided by Sylvia Kay Hassenfeld and the Twice Arts Foundation. Exhibit design by Abbott Miller, Pentagram. New York magazine is the media partner.

About the Museum of Jewish Heritage

The Museum's three-floor Core Exhibition educates people of all ages and backgrounds about the rich tapestry of Jewish life over the past century—before, during, and after the Holocaust. Special exhibitions include *The Morgenthau: A Legacy of Service*, on view through September 5, 2011; *Project Mah Jongg*, on view through February 27, 2011; and *Fire in My Heart: The Hannah Senesh Story*, on view through August 7, 2011. It is also home to the award-winning *Keeping History Center*, an interactive visitor experience, and Andy Goldsworthy's memorial *Garden of Stones*. The Museum offers visitors a vibrant public program schedule in its Edmond J. Safra Hall and receives general operating support from the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs.

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