Meet Kayla!
NEWEST MEMBER OF THE WSJHS TEAM

We are pleased to introduce Kayla Boland (left) our newest 2022 staff member!

Kayla (she/her) grew up in the south sound. She joined us as a contractor in January to curate our new digital exhibit, “The Life of Pamela Waechter: Joie de Vivre.” She became full-time in June as our Communications and Exhibit Curator! She loves finding great stories for social media and enjoys writing more than anything.

Your support makes it possible to welcome new staff members to the WSJHS. Thank you!

Kayla at Tacoma’s Point Defiance Park.

Upcoming Events

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<th>Tuesday, September 13, 2022</th>
<th>Wednesday, September 14, 2022</th>
<th>Wednesday, October 26, 2022</th>
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<td>FAMILY OF STRANGERS BOOK EVENT</td>
<td>WALLENBERG LECTURE</td>
<td>HISTORY HAPPY HOUR: YOU ARE THE ARCHIVIST</td>
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<td>Free</td>
<td>$10 - $15</td>
<td>$5 - $10</td>
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Stuart Eskenazi & Emily Alhadeff talk about our new book at Third Place Books in Steward Park at 7:00 PM with an audience Q&A session and book signing. Murriel’s Kosher Eatery has a special menu & hours from 5-8 PM. Bring your copy or get one at the store!

History Happy Hour: You Are the Archivist
Learn best practices to take care of your precious family artifacts with our Archivist, Marissa, at this virtual event: 7:00 PM (PT)

wsjhs.org/events

GIVE THE GIFT OF MEMBERSHIP!
Your tax deductible contribution will enable us not only to fulfill our mission, but to retain staff and contractors while we do so!

Become A Member
See all membership levels at wsjhs.org/membership
💰 $180 | Chai
💰 $250 | Historian
💰 $500 | Curator
💰 $1,000 | Patron
💰 $2,500 | Visionary

We also offer a monthly membership program. For just $36, $50, or $118 per month, you can support the WSJHS on a continuous basis!

If you prefer to mail your contribution, please use the paper insert inside this newsletter.

Your Fall 2022 Donor Impact Report

You Are Making An Investment In Our Future!
ALL ABOUT OUR NEW ARCHIVAL MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

For the last 16 years, the Washington State Jewish Historical Society has been creating – collecting stories and photos, curating, publishing and exhibiting – with your help. And because of you, the Washington Jewish Museum was birthed just over three years ago and already hosts nearly 40 exhibits and counting. With all of the incredible materials that we have taken in, our collections need a more permanent home. This home was formally the Washington State Jewish Archives at the University of Washington Special Collections Libraries, but they are out of physical and digital space and are in a moratorium period for the foreseeable future to accession new materials.

TO THE RESCUE: STATE FUNDING

After much work this past Legislative Session and with the help of the Government Affairs Department at the Jewish Federation of Greater Seattle and with state Representative Tana Senn spearheading the budget proviso, we were granted state funding for this project. We spoke to many of our state’s senators and representatives and they all adored the idea of supporting the WSJHS working on a new archival management system, a repository for our amazing collections – jewels of the community provided to the society but not yet formally accessioned.

While you may not hear from the WSJHS with as many programs this year, you should know that your support means the world to us as we undertake the monumental task of building this new system from the ground up.

With the help of contractors, staff, and volunteers, this project will be made possible and will be shared with all of you. Thank you, in advance, for continuing to fund the Historical Society – your generosity is unmatched and has made our work in stewarding and preserving our state’s Jewish treasures possible.

We cannot wait to share our progress with all of you!

INSIDE: READ MORE ABOUT THE IMPACT OF YOUR SUPPORT

In the Archives
Q&A with our Archivist, Marissa

Family of Strangers Book Launch
Inside our successful 2022 gala

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Q&A
WITH OUR NEW ARCHIVIST, MARISSA HILLER

About Marissa:
I’m the Archivist and project manager for the WSJHS’s new archival management system. I also collect hats, and I am very excited to give you a sneak peek behind the scenes, and talk about our new collection policy.

Q: I have trouble understanding museum terminology. Is there a way of simplifying this for the general public?
A: Yes! Another thing currently in the works is the development of a glossary for more commonly used archive and museum terminology. Keep an eye on our emails and social media accounts to find out when this is available to explore!

Q: Why does it need to be updated?
A: Funny you should ask. The last time the WSJHS collection policy was updated was 2009! Many things have changed in the past 13 years: museums have pivoted from physical exhibitions to digital, the advance of technology has allowed sharing across many different platforms, and there has also been a stronger focus on community archives and collections. The WSJHS mission statement was also changed last year; part of that change involves taking a much closer look at the items in our collection which support the mission.

It’s also important to note that there is no one size fits all for a Collection Policy. It’s a living document that will be continually updated as the needs of the organization change.

Q: Why are we doing this?
A: The WSJHS is building a foundation on which we can continue to lay the groundwork for our digital museum. Our collection policy is an integral part of this.

Q: Where is it used in—After two years of...
A: Our...