

An Evening of Remembrance & Hope: About This Event

On October 7, CJP, alongside JCRC and IAC, will bring our Greater Boston Jewish community together for **An Evening of Remembrance & Hope**. Exactly one year prior, the largest loss of Jewish life since the Holocaust occurred when terrorists invaded Southern Israel, killing approximately 1,200 people and taking 251 hostage.

“In Israel, it is still October 7.”

When you travel to Israel, you hear that common refrain. For our community in Greater Boston, many of us are still grieving and praying for those whose lives were shattered on that day — including the hostages, those who died, and all their loved ones — and working in our own ways to rebuild, heal, and strengthen Israel and its people.

This October 7, we will come together to remember and mourn, knowing that this has affected all of us in different ways, and find solace and strength in the solidarity and resilience of the Jewish People.

Event details:

- The commemoration event will consist of a 1.5-hour program at the Wang Theatre in Boston
- This event will center on human stories, firsthand accounts, and memories of those who died
 - This event will not be political and instead focus on personal narrative
 - We will feature stories of Israelis — Jewish, Druze, Bedouin and others impacted on that terrible day
- We will feature local Boston residents who will offer readings, commemorations, and inspiration — expressed through words and music
 - We will share in traditional Jewish memorial prayers as well as moments of silence
 - So many organizations in our community have stepped up to support Israel and combat antisemitism in North America since October 7. There is no way to fully showcase the generosity and support of this community, and we will therefore focus Boston’s collective response rather than platforming individual/organizational voices.
- Given our short program, our event will focus on the atrocities of October 7
 - At the same time, we will come together as a whole community, with the spirit and purpose so eloquently expressed by Rachel Goldberg-Polin last month, in which she said: “There is a surplus of agony on all sides of the tragic conflict in the Middle East. In a competition of pain, there are no winners. In our Jewish tradition, we say: *Kol adam olam umlo’o*: Every person is an entire universe. We must save all these universes.”
 - We hope those who attend will find space to mourn events post-October 7 and reflect in ways that feel meaningful to them and hold those they are remembering in their hearts

- Many issues divide us as a community, but the evening's program will be built with the Hebrew concept of *achdut* in mind. The Jewish People are interconnected. We experience history together. We experience the highs and the lows together. We'll experience this moment in time together.
- We will come together in grief and, through our pain, recommit to building a joyful Jewish community of communities centered on hope and love for one another

More to know:

- This event is open to all ages, but material may be difficult for small children; the program is geared toward an adult audience
- Every attempt will be made to meet special accommodations
- The event will be recorded
- There will not be food available
- While not the focus of this event, CJP is committed to creating opportunities in the near future for difficult conversations with different perspectives about what has happened in Israel and in North America in the wake of October 7