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Featured speakers to discuss Jews and Rock and Roll and Jewish Humor at 39th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy Set in Cleveland

Featured speakers for the 39th IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy in Cleveland, Ohio, July 28 – Aug. 2, will discuss “Jews and Rock and Roll” and “Jewish Humor.”

Keynote speaker on the opening afternoon, July 28, is Professor Daniel Goldmark, director of The Center for Popular Music Studies at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland. Goldmark works on American popular music, film and cartoon music, the history of the music industry, and popular music in Cleveland. He is an author or editor of a number of books on cartoons, animation and music and has worked in the animation and music industries. While many may know that Cleveland DJ Alan Freed coined the term Rock and Roll, there’s a lot more to learn about how Jews contributed to the evolution of rock and roll.

That evening, conference attendees will join at a reception at Cleveland’s legendary Rock & Roll Hall of Fame.

Cleveland native, Dr. Michael Krasny, author, host of the award-winning NPR Forum radio program, and professor at San Francisco State University, will discuss Jewish humor as the Gala Banquet dinner speaker on Thursday, Aug. 1.

His newest book is *Let There Be Laughter: A Treasury of Great Jewish Humor and What It All Means*. He comments, “Yes, this is a joke book. It has in it some of the greatest Jewish jokes of all time. But it is much more. Embedded in the jokes and folklore and tales and anecdotes is the history of a people, a tribe, their value system and their rich ongoing heritage. It is a work of cultural anthropology, a wide portal to understanding Jewish identity and an immersion into the hilarity, joy and power of laughter. So enjoy, learn and, above all, laugh!” The book will be available for sale and autographs at the banquet.

“Our two featured speakers are well-recognized in their fields, and we feel fortunate to have such impressive speakers on our program.” said Ken Bravo of Cleveland, IAJGS president and co-chair of the 2019 conference with Jay Sage, IAJGS vice president, of Newton, MA.

The conference will include more than 200 programs, lectures, panel discussion and workshops focusing on genealogy methodology, available archival resources and the history of all Jewish communities.

Details of the conference, including registration, hotel information and the full program, are posted on the conference website www.iajgs2019.org.

The International Association of Jewish Genealogical Societies (IAJGS) is an umbrella organization of more than 85 Jewish genealogical organizations worldwide offering the world of Jewish ancestry where you live. The IAJGS coordinates and organizes activities such as the annual IAJGS International Conference on Jewish Genealogy and provides a unified voice as the spokesperson on behalf of its members. The IAJGS vision is of a worldwide network of Jewish genealogical research organizations and partners working together as one coherent, effective and respected community – enabling people to succeed in researching Jewish ancestry and heritage. Find the IAJGS at www.iajgs.org and like us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/iajgsjewishgenealogy>.

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For further information on the two speakers you can link to www.michaelkrasny.com and <https://music.case.edu/faculty/daniel-goldmark/>