

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 5, 2017

Media Contact:
Jennifer Isakowitz
215.391.4666 / jisakowitz@nmajh.org
703.203.1577 (c)

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AMERICAN JEWISH HISTORY
ADVANCE EXHIBITION SCHEDULE, 2017 – 2018

1917: How One Year Changed the World

March 17 – July 16, 2017

NMAJH will debut the special exhibition *1917: How One Year Changed the World*, co-organized by the American Jewish Historical Society (AJHS) in New York. The exhibition looks back 100 years to explore how three key events of 1917—America’s entry into World War I, the Bolshevik Revolution, and the issuing of the Balfour Declaration, in which Great Britain indicated support for a Jewish homeland in Palestine—brought about political, cultural, and social changes that dramatically reshaped the United States’ role in the world and provoked its most stringent immigration quotas to date. The exhibition examines this consequential year through the eyes of American Jews, who experienced these events both as Americans and as part of an international diaspora community. Following its run at NMAJH, *1917* will be on view at AJHS, September 1 - December 29, 2017.



Leslie's Weekly, 1917.

1917: How One Year Changed the World has been made possible in part by a major grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the human endeavor. Major support provided by Anonymous; David Berg Foundation; and Tawani Foundation. Additional support provided by: Linda and Michael Jesselson, Bryna and Joshua Landes.

Leonard Bernstein: The Power of Music

March 16 – September 2, 2018

Leonard Bernstein: The Power of Music, organized by NMAJH, will celebrate the centennial birthday of one of the 20th century's most influential cultural figures, who personified classical music and produced a rich repertoire of original compositions for orchestra and the theater. Audiences may be familiar with many of Bernstein's works, notably *West Side Story*, but not necessarily how he grappled with or responded to the political and social crises of his day. Visitors will find an individual who expressed the restlessness, anxiety, fear, and hope of an American Jew living through World War II and the Holocaust, Vietnam, and turbulent social change – what Bernstein referred



Young Leonard Bernstein at the piano.
Courtesy the Leonard Bernstein Office, Inc.

to as his “search for a solution to the 20th-century crisis of faith.” The exhibition will focus on his Jewish identity and social activism in the context of his position as an American conductor and his works as a composer. It will feature one-of-a-kind historic artifacts, from Bernstein's personal effects to rich photography and original writings and scores in Bernstein's hand, all brought to life through immersive film, sound installations, and interactive media.

Leonard Bernstein: The Power of Music has been made possible in part by the National Endowment for the Humanities: Exploring the human endeavor.

###

About the National Museum of American Jewish History

The National Museum of American Jewish History, located on historic Independence Mall in Philadelphia, brings to life the more than 360-year history of Jews in America. Tracing the stories of how Jewish immigrants became Jewish Americans, the Museum invites visitors of all backgrounds to share their own stories and reflect on how their histories and identities shape and are shaped by the American experience. An open door for all, NMAJH honors the past and contributes to a better future by sharing the power of imagination and ideas, culture and community, leadership and service, in ways that turn inspiration into action.

The National Museum of American Jewish History is located at 101 South Independence Mall East at the corner of Fifth and Market Streets in Philadelphia. Museum hours are Tuesday to Friday, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm, and Saturday and Sunday 10:00 am - 5:30 pm. NMAJH is closed most Mondays, including federal holidays and some Jewish holidays. Museum admission is \$12.00 for adults, \$11.00 for senior citizens and youth, free for children 12 and under, Museum Members, and active military with ID. Connect with the Museum on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [Twitter](#), and [Pinterest](#). For more information, visit NMAJH.org or call 215.923.3811.