**Message from the President**

Chag Sameach from the Jewish Multiracial Network! Passover is a time of connection, where we explore our connection to our community, our history, and even our own personal stories. We share the story of the Jewish people and speak to where we’ve come from. It’s an exploration of communal and personal freedom. There is power in the way we each re-frame our communal story to reflect and respond to our individual narratives and personal histories. Whether we discuss personal stories of tragedy and struggle, or draw attention to past or current political and social struggles, the ability to acknowledge and incorporate our diverse voices is an integral part of the Passover tradition.

**Passover Recipe**

**BIMUEROS (MATZAH POPOVERS)**

*From the Joy of Kosher contributed by Laura Ben-David*

- **Times**
  - Prep Time: 30 min
  - Cook Time: 45 min
  - Ready Time: 1 hour, 15 min

- **Servings**
  - 1 dozen

- **Ingredients**
  - 2 cups matzah farfel or crumbled matzah
  - 4 eggs, beaten
  - 1/4 cup milk
  - 1/2 teaspoon salt
  - 1 tablespoon oil
  - 1 tablespoon sugar

- **Directions**
  - Put matzah farfel in a bowl, pour boiling water over it to just cover. Let sit a few minutes until it soaks in. Mix with the rest of the ingredients.
  - Grease a 12-muffin tin and fill it up to 2/3 of its depth.
  - Bake at 350°F for 45 minutes.
  - Serve with butter and/or jelly

**Children’s Book Review**

**ABUELTITA’S SECRET MATZAH by SANDY EISENBERG SAASO**

*Book Review by Debbie Vishnevsky*

I really like this book for a number of reasons.

One, I am of mixed descent, my mother is Latina and Catholic and my father Israeli and Jewish. This book touches on a number of themes present in both the Latin and Jewish community, particularly historical cultural misunderstandings and fear of discrimination. This book speaks about an often forgotten community, secret Jewish families and communities that continued to keep...
The book uses a combination of English and Spanish but is easy to read and includes a small glossary of the Spanish terms, making this book appropriate for children and adults.

Honestly, my favorite part of this book is its difficult and open ending. Whether a person is descended from secret Jews, a product of a mixed household, or even a young person from a more “traditional” Jewish upbringing, this book reminds even young readers that ultimately religion (and on a grander scale identity) is often tied to the choices we make as individuals. Jacobo, the main character, is given a history and an education, but not easy answers, an important lesson for all young people. While it may be a bit heavy I think it’s valuable that children understand that they are the most important decision makers in their lives. Their history doesn’t necessarily need to define them, but it should be a part of their own narratives.

Also, the illustrations are beautiful and if you haven’t had one, sopapillas are delicious.

Debbie is a researcher in Brooklyn, NY. Debbie started participating in Jewish Multiracial Network programming in 2008. Her background includes work at Hillel at University of Maryland, diversity programming at Cornell University and various programs in NYC. When not reading children's books for JWN she can be found volunteering with GrowNYC Greenmarkets, the National Council of Jewish Women and the JDC, Debbie’s family has routes in Orthodox communities in Shanghai to beach side towns in Honduras. She really likes sopapillas.

**Jewish Learning Corner**

**BEDIKAT CHAMETZ: THE SEARCH FOR CHAMETZ**

On the night before Passover, there is a tradition to search one’s home for all of the visible remains of chametz (leavened products derived from wheat, barley, rye, spelt, or oat). This search is called “Bedikat Chametz” and can be a fun way to get the family involved in the spirit of the holiday. Generally, one member of the household will hide (don’t forget to remember where you hid everything!) ten pieces of bread throughout the house for the rest of the family to find. A blessing (see the image below) is said ...and the search begins! Everyone then proceeds to search for the house for the hidden pieces of bread and any other pieces of chametz that may have escaped your cleaning. There is even a custom to search the house with special search equipment - a feather and wooden spoon! All of the chametz that is found is gathered together for disposal.

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**Before beginning the search for chametz, say:**

בָּרוּךְ אֶתָּ אֲדוֹנֵי, אֱלֹהִין וְאֱלֹהִים מֵּלֶךְ הָאָלֹם, אֶתְּרִשְׁבָּן בְּיוֹתֵמְזֵוֹת, וּזְאָה עַל בֵּן חַמֵּטַנְתֵזְוֵה.

Blessed are You, Lord our God, King of the universe, Who has sanctified us with His commandments, and commanded us about removing the chametz.