

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media invited to member preview reception on June 2

Great video/photo opps and daily scheduled tours for media

Local players and experts available for interviews

Mah Jongg is More Than a Game *Explore the history, play 'mahj' within exhibit*

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin – An exhibit honoring the memories, legacy and charms of the game of mah jongg — including live action playing — opens June 5 at Jewish Museum Milwaukee, 1360 N. Prospect Ave.

Since the 1920s, the game of mah jongg has ignited the popular imagination with its beautiful tiles, mythical origins and communal spirit. “Project Mah Jongg” chronicles the history and meaning of the beloved game that became a Jewish-American tradition, complete with exciting artifacts, vintage photos and guided play sessions for both the beginner and experienced player. The environment conveys how mah jongg is much more than a game: it is a carrier of fantasy, identity, memory and meaning.

This acclaimed traveling exhibit is curated and circulated by the Museum of Jewish Heritage-A Living Memorial to the Holocaust, New York, and is supplemented with local material for its debut in the Midwest.

A preview reception on June 2 — “Mah Jongg, Martinis and Madness!” — will include mah jongg-inspired improv with Comedy Sportz.

Learn more about the exhibit, including special programs such as lectures, book talks, play sessions and tournaments, at JewishMuseumMilwaukee.org/Events or call 414.390.5730. The exhibit runs through Aug. 28.

JMM, a program of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, is open Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. (til 7 p.m. third Thursday of the month); Friday, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.; Saturday, closed; Sunday, 12 - 4 p.m. Admission: adults, \$7; seniors, \$5; students, \$3; families, \$15; active military personnel and children under 6, free. Free parking.

Exhibit sponsors: Albert & Ann Deshur Donor Advised Fund; Anonymous Fund of Jewish Community Foundation; Suzy B. Ettinger; Sue Selig.

About the Jewish Museum Milwaukee

The Jewish Museum Milwaukee is dedicated to preserving and presenting the history of the Jewish people in southeastern Wisconsin and celebrating the continuum of Jewish heritage and culture. The history of American Jews is rooted in thousands of years of searching for freedom and equality. We are committed to sharing this story and the life lessons it brings with it, so that we may enhance the public's awareness and appreciation of Jewish life and culture.

About the Milwaukee Jewish Federation

For more than 100 years, the Milwaukee Jewish Federation has been dedicated to building a strong Jewish community. We distributed \$20 million last year to Jewish and non-Jewish organizations locally and around the world, and manage philanthropy through our \$165 million Jewish Community Foundation.

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