

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media preview appointments available June 11 & 12

Exhibit explores Jews, other cultural minorities in baseball's history *Chasing Dreams: Baseball & Becoming American opens June 14*

MILWAUKEE, Wisconsin— Explore baseball's legends and myths, its heroes and flops, its struggles and its moments of triumph within *Chasing Dreams: Baseball & Becoming American*, an exhibit on display June 14-Sept. 7 at Jewish Museum Milwaukee, a program of the Milwaukee Jewish Federation, 1360 N. Prospect Ave.

The exhibit will celebrate well-known Jewish heroes such as Hank Greenberg and Sandy Koufax and iconic baseball pioneers like Jackie Robinson, Joe DiMaggio, Roberto Clemente and Ichiro Suzuki, as well as baseball's extended family of vendors, team owners, minor leaguers, amateur players, scouts, broadcasters, journalists, novelists — and especially, fans. The core exhibit, developed by and on loan from the National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia and augmented with artifacts on loan from local organizations and individuals, investigates and shares how baseball has served as an arena in which values, identity, ethnicity and race have been projected, contested and occasionally solidified.

Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American poses and answers questions such as: Why have so many immigrant groups and minority communities identified with, taken pride in, and felt connected to the nation's pastime? Did baseball impact how American Jews established affinities with other racial and ethnic minorities? What does it mean that Jews consider Jackie Robinson to be one of their own heroes?

Local and regional ties include pieces from the All American Girls Professional Baseball League, including the team highlighted in the movie "A League of Their Own." As an added bonus, the exhibit will feature a signed base plate from Robin Yount's 3000th hit at Milwaukee County Stadium.

During the public opening from noon-4 p.m. on Sunday, June 14, there will be gallery tours and talks throughout the afternoon, free with admission.

The presenting sponsor of *Chasing Dreams: Baseball and Becoming American* is the Milwaukee Brewers, and honorary exhibit chairs are Bud & Sue Selig and Mark & Debbie Attanasio.

For a complete listing of exhibit programs, gallery hours and admission fees, visit JewishMuseumMilwaukee.org or call (414) 390-5730.

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 \$150 million Jewish Community Foundation.

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