



OJAI VALLEY NEWS

The Mitzvah Project coming to Ojai

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Actor Elijah Alexander will star in “The Mitzvah Project” at the Jewish Community of Ojai on Sunday, March 19, at 4 p.m.



Photo from: www.elijahalexander.net

“We are graduating generations of young people who are profoundly ignorant not only about the Holocaust, but about the history underlying it.” — Roger Grunwald, creator, and author of “The Mitzvah Project,” an acclaimed 75-minute, three-part Holocaust-and-social justice-themed educational program consisting of a one-man stage performance, “The Mitzvah,” a lecture, and a Q&A.

Performances To Grow On and the Ojai Storytelling

Festival welcome Teaching Artist Elijah Alexander, known most notably for his role in the hit TV series “The Chosen,” to present The Mitzvah Project at a number of high schools and colleges in the Ojai-Ventura area, as well as two public community shows: one on Saturday, March 18, at The Center For Spiritual Living in Ventura (101 S. Laurel St.) at 7:30 p.m. and the other on Sunday, March 19, at the Jewish Community Of Ojai (530 W. El Roblar Drive) at 4 p.m.

Performances To Grow On is offering this educational programming at no cost to public schools. To schedule a show in a public school, email info@ojaistoryfest.com. For tickets to the public shows, go to ojaistoryfest.org/special-events.

About his participation in The Mitzvah Project, Elijah Alexander said, “With the survivor generation dying out, I see it as my personal

obligation to use my skills as a performer and teacher to make sure that the world does not forget, and young people will be able to learn these critical lessons of history.”

In the U.S., only 23 states have mandatory Holocaust education and in 2021, The United States Holocaust Memorial Museum reported that only 21 states had shared their Holocaust education requirements. While California has “strongly encouraged” Holocaust and genocide education, curricula vary greatly from district to district. With The Mitzvah Project, Roger Grunwald and his teaching artists hope to educate by turning theater into a history lesson.

‘The Mitzvah Project helped our students understand that making our country and world more just is everyone’s responsibility.’ — Charley Gilmore, Sacramento County Office of Education.