

# Memoirs of a Hidden Child

## *Jews in Greece During the Holocaust*

Breakfast and Speaker on Sunday, March 24, 2019, With Sara Cohen



Sara Cohen has always been interested in arts & culture, particularly the stories of her own Jewish relatives from Athens, Greece. As a child born after the war to parents who survived the roundup of all the Jews of Greece, she recalls a "normal" childhood in the diminished Greek Jewish community of Athens.

Only 5,000 thousand Jews remained in all of Greece after the loss of more that 65,000 in Auschwitz. Those who returned tried to pick up new lives, and those who had gone into hiding tried to reclaim their lost homes, and for most that was a difficult path.

Sara's parents, who had been hidden by righteous Christians, did not meet and marry until after the war.

Attending the Athens Jewish School, Sara met all the children born after the war, most of whom had no surviving grandparents, aunts or uncles. Many had a father or mother who had lost their entire previous Family, and who, by surviving Auschwitz came back "home" to begin new lives.

In 1956, an opportunity offered by the JOINT allowed the Cohen family to emigrate to the US to begin a new life in Boston. Life was very difficult in the new country, away from relatives, traditions, language, and culture. Her Sephardic culture was foreign to all the Ashkenazi Jews that the Cohen family would later meet in Boston. In fact, as the Cohen family was placed in Roxbury (missing the previous Jewish community by 10 years), Sara did not meet any Jewish children until her family moved to Dorchester in 1964, just as all the Jewish families there were moving out to Newton, Randolph, and elsewhere.

Attending the Boston School system and securing a scholarship to Northeastern University, Sara began a 32 year career of teaching Art in the Boston Public Schools. Her passion for photography and recording personal stories led her to creating documentaries. Now producing a bimonthly program, "What's Your Story" for Newtv, Sara has a format for presenting her documentaries on Art, Culture, & Stories of interest.

**Sponsored by The Sisterhood.**  
***Shaharit* at 9:00 AM, followed**  
**by breakfast and speaker at 9:45 AM.**  
**Cost is \$8 / person. Please RSVP to**  
**Janet Goldberg at:**  
**[janet.goldberg2@verizon.net](mailto:janet.goldberg2@verizon.net).**

