



Author David Brody spoke about growing up Orthodox and gay

Tuesday night learning at the Shaar

As part of its commitment to learning, Congregation Shaar Hashomayim is hosting Tuesday Night Learning at the Shaar, two back-to-back learning sessions on a variety of topics relevant to the Ashkenazi Jewish community.

This week the program began with the presentation Hereditary Diseases in the Ashkenazim: Are you at risk and what can you do about it? Dr. Marc Tischkowitz discussed how there are certain hereditary genetic diseases amongst the Ashkenazi

Jewish people, often transmitted by carriers, that include Tay Saks and Cystic Fibrosis and BRCA1 and BRCA2 genes linked to breast and ovarian cancers. Using charts, Tischkowitz compared the percentages between them and the general population.

As part of the Challenging the Norms series, Montreal author David Brody spoke about Growing Up Orthodox and Gay. Brody's book Mourning and Celebration that deals with his experiences is available at local bookstores.

Upcoming topics include Learning Disabilities: Myth or Reality?; Can Orthodox Women be Rabbis?; Moving Beyond Crisis: Reclaiming the Primacy of Ethics; and a feature film presentation of Noodle. The cost is \$8 per night for both programs and/or the film. For more information phone 514-937-9471. The Shaar is located at 450 Kensington Ave.