Shirlala: Gratitudes and Blessings

Presented in Partnership with PJ Library

Sunday, Oct. 20; 3 pm

Special Program for Families

Gordon Center for Performing Arts

$10 in advance/ $12 at door

Reserve tickets online at [www.gordoncenter.com](http://www.gordoncenter.com) or in person at the Owings Mills JCC

For more information: info@gordoncenter.com or 410- 356-7469

[www.shirlala.com](http://www.shirlala.com)

Shira Kline, aka ShirLaLa, is an award-winning, New York-based performer and music educator, professional circus drummer [Lee "Free" Frisari](http://www.leefreemusic.com/fr_bkbikebeat.cfm) ([Circus Amok](http://www.circusamok.org/)), and glitter pink glam rock star [Viva Deconcini](http://www.vivamusic.info/live/) on guitar.  ShirLaLa has performed in hundreds of venues throughout the U.S. as well as stages in Canada, England, Italy, Australia and New Zealand. The band has three “outrageously hip Jewish kiddie rock” albums that are favorites with the PJ Library, having sold over 25,000 copies. Equally popular is Kline’s “Blog Sameach,” a unique educational resource center for parents and teachers full of original coloring pages, recipes, teachings, stories and project ideas.

Raised in the world of music and in the tradition of the Torah, Kline has worked for over a decade with many Jewish communities to enrich holiday celebrations for children and adults.  Kline’s motivation stems from a family who infused every moment of life with the love of Judaism – special homemade foods, singing and dancing to Jewish music, exploring and reveling in all holidays, and ethics lessons learned from her father, [Rabbi David Kline](http://good-to-be-a-jew.blogspot.com/). In fact, Kline is paying it forward by being on faculty at the prestigious Hava Nashira and often appears as a guest teacher for cantoral and rabbinic students at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute (HUC-JIR).

Not only does she perform across the United States and internationally and serves on faculty, but Kline is a worship leader, runs adult Jewish music meditation classes, teaches professional development workshops for early childhood and music teachers, and is a featured performer and speaker with Synagogue 3000. If that is not enough, this blue-headed, sometimes pink- or purple-headed young woman is an actor, writer, and performer in the company she founded, [Storahtelling: "Ancient Stories, New Generations."](http://www.storahtelling.org/)  Kline’s innovative approach was recognized by *The Jewish Week* in 2011 when they honored her as one of their [“36 Under 36:  The New Re-Engineers”](http://www.thejewishweek.com/special_sections/36_under_36_2011_new_re_engineers/shira_kline_35) of Jewish life.

Kline has been called the "Pied Piper of the next green generation" by LA Parent Magazine for her newest project, “Earth Worm Disco.” A Parent’s Choice award winner, this CD nourishes the brain, body, and heart with original and imaginative music, stories and games that connect children to environmentalism. Her “eco-music” honors the bounty of earth, sea and sky, and the wonders of growing up green. Shirlala’s Gratitudes and Blessings concert is in honor of mother earth and incorporates sons from "Earth Worm Disco," which can be found at [www.RockinOutGreen.com](http://www.rockinoutgreen.com/). The CD comes with original cover art, a package made entirely out of green and recycled materials, a plastic tray made from recycled soda bottles, and an optional special seed packet of butterfly garden mix so that fans can start growing a greener world today.

For media inquires or interview requests, please contact Allison Spiegel at 917.693.3407 or aspiegelpr@aol.com

PJ Library is a Jewish Family and Engagement program of the [**Harold Grinspoon Foundation**](http://www.hgf.org/), implemented in Baltimore by the Associated Jewish Community Federation of Baltimore and the Macks Center for Jewish Education with support of local donors. They mail free, high-quality [**Jewish children's literature and music**](http://www.pjlibrary.org/Books-and-Music.aspx) to families raising Jewish children from age six months through six and one-half years.