

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Media Contact: Dara Solomon
Director, Ontario Jewish Archives,
UJA Federation of Greater Toronto
Email: dsolomon@ujafed.org | Phone: 416.635.5391 x 5187

INTIMATE MOMENTS OF MID 20TH CENTURY TORONTO LIFE CAPTURED IN THE PHOTOGRAPHS OF DR. JOHN E. ACKERMAN ON VIEW IN FEATURED SCOTIABANK CONTACT PHOTOGRAPHY FESTIVAL EXHIBITION

Collecting Moments: The Photographs of Dr. John E. Ackerman.

May 17, 2018 – June 10, 2018

Black Cat Artspace, 2186 Dundas St. West, Toronto

Toronto, ON– The Ontario Jewish Archives, Blankenstein Family Heritage Centre (OJA), a department of UJA Federation, presents the first solo exhibition of the works of amateur photographer Dr. John E. Ackerman (1921-2008). This exhibition is a featured exhibition in the Scotiabank CONTACT Photography Festival which runs throughout the month of May across the GTA.

Collecting Moments portrays stories of young love, family and celebration through the photographs of Dr. John E. Ackerman who worked professionally as a dentist throughout his life. An accomplished amateur photographer, Ackerman's images provide both a personal and historical account of urban life in Toronto in the mid-20th century. His photographs offer an intimate glimpse into Toronto's first immigrant neighbourhood, St. John's Ward, where the Ackerman family lived and owned a grocery store. Also included are beautiful photographs documenting summer life at beaches and cottages around Ontario.



Men outside Ackerman's Grocery Store, 1940s. OJA

Running from **May 17, 2018 to June 10, 2018**, *Collecting Moments* opens to the public with a reception on **Thursday, March 17 from 8 to 10PM**. The exhibition is curated by Charlotte Gagnier and Sarah Proulx, graduate students in the University of Toronto's Museum Studies program in the Faculty of Information.

The exhibition is organized by the Ontario Jewish Archives, Blankenstein Family Heritage Centre, a department of UJA Federation of Greater Toronto. The photographs featured in this exhibition are from the OJA's Dr. John E. Ackerman collection and the Ackerman family's collection.

[The Ontario Jewish Archives, Blankenstein Family Heritage Centre](#), a department of UJA Federation, is the largest repository of Jewish life in Canada. The OJA acquires, preserves and makes accessible the records that chronicle our province's Jewish history.