

## Schelly Talalay Dardashti



Schelly will look at Jewish history and DNA, covering the post-1391 and post-1492 migrations from what is today's Spain and Portugal around the Mediterranean, into the Balkans, North Africa, and the New World. DNA project results and genetic medical conditions (including BRCA1) will also be addressed.

A journalist and genealogist, Schelly Talalay Dardashti is the US Genealogy Advisor for MyHeritage.com. She has written for Family Tree Magazine, Avotaynu, NGS Quarterly, The Forward and JTA. The former Jerusalem Post columnist ("It's All Relative," 1999-2005) is an award-winning pioneer Jewish genealogy blogger and founder of "Tracing the Tribe – Jewish Genealogy on Facebook," (with 32,000+ global members). She speaks at many genealogy/DNA conferences in the US and abroad, on Sephardic, Mizrahi and Ashkenazi Jewish research and resources, DNA, and other topics.

She has traced her family across Eastern Europe, Spain and Iran for 30 years. Schelly was an early proponent of DNA for genealogists and is co-administrator/founder of the IberianAshkenaz DNA Project (investigating Sephardic origins of some Eastern European Ashkenazi families) and the Jewish Persian DNA Project, both at FTDNA.

Schelly is a board member, social media coordinator and annual genealogy workshop speaker, Society for Crypto-Judaic Studies; serves on the Leadership Committee, Casa Sefarad New Mexico; president, JGS of New Mexico, which sponsors the annual Jewish Genetics Conference and Jewish DNA/Genealogy Workshop. She works with the Spanish Citizenship committee, Jewish Federation of New Mexico.

A native New Yorker, she has lived in Iran and in Israel. She has been a New Mexican by choice since 2010.