

International
Conference

Program

June 18 - 21, 2023
Boston

Negotiating Multiple Identities: Implications for Interreligious Relations



IN COOPERATION WITH



BOSTON COLLEGE

CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN-JEWISH LEARNING



Betty Ann Greenbaum Miller Center for
Interreligious Learning and Leadership



Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations

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***Negotiating Multiple Identities:
Implications for Interreligious
Relations***

CONFERENCE PROGRAM

2023 International Conference of the
INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS
in collaboration with
CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN-JEWISH LEARNING, BOSTON COLLEGE
BETTY ANN GREENBAUM MILLER CENTER FOR
INTERRELIGIOUS LEARNING AND LEADERSHIP, HEBREW COLLEGE
COUNCIL OF CENTERS ON JEWISH-CHRISTIAN RELATIONS

Boston, USA

Simmons University, Hebrew College, Boston College
June 18 – 21, 2023

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WELCOME

Liliane Apotheker

President of the International Council of Christians and Jews

The ICCJ last gathered in person four years ago (2019) at our annual conference in Lund, Sweden. Then the COVID pandemic struck. Our last conference in the United States was in 2016. It is, therefore, more than appropriate that in 2023 we reconvene in the USA once more.

It is with great pleasure that I welcome you to Boston, Massachusetts for an impressive program that has been prepared with the hard work of some amazing partners: our member organization in the United States – the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations (CCJR) –, Boston College, and Hebrew College.

In previous annual conferences, the ICCJ has explored such themes as multiculturalism, secularity, religions and identity, and narratives of self and other. We always seek insights into the implications of these subjects for Jewish-Christian dialogue in particular and interreligious relations more generally.

Today, we see a world in upheaval. Hate crimes are on the rise. So, too, is a populism that stokes rage and sets different sectors of society against each other. White supremacy is unabashedly proclaimed. For large numbers of people their sole sources of information are ideological echo chambers that manipulatively reinforce biases and discourage critical thinking.

For all these reasons, the conference organizers decided that we should take a multidimensional approach to this year's gathering, drawing on the rich resources available in New England. Together, we will study how multiple forms of historical prejudices intersect and impact the lives of individuals and groups differently. We will discuss why solidarity does not always extend to include minority groups that are subjected to compounding forms of discrimination, even from others who are themselves victims of such mistreatment. We will explore how solidarity across communities can be fostered to counteract oppression and heal its wounds.

As you will soon see, the conference organizers have assembled a wonderful roster of experts from the United States and throughout our international network. I eagerly anticipate the tremendous learning experience that awaits us all.

My warmest greetings of welcome to everyone!

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Daniel Joslyn-Siemiatkoski
Center for Christian-Jewish Learning, Boston College

On behalf of the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College, it is my honor to welcome you to this conference. The complex intersection of religious, racial, and ethnic identities in Boston and the state of Massachusetts makes this an appropriate site for exploring our conference theme of "Negotiating Multiple Identities: Implications for Interreligious Relations."

The city of Boston and the Massachusetts Bay Colony were established by Puritans, religious dissenters from England, who were seeking a place where they could exercise their vision of a godly church in harmony with a godly society. John Winthrop famously urged his Puritan co-religionists to envision their project akin to establishing a city on a hill whose light might shine before friends and foes alike. Although religious liberty was a goal for the Puritans, this was not a liberty extended to all. Their self-conception as a new Israel resulted in deadly conflict with the Native American population who too often were perceived as subjects to conquer. Likewise, broader religious tolerance only gradually took sway in the middle of the eighteenth century.

The Boston area is rightly known as the "Cradle of the American Revolution" and one which features the contributions of both Black and Jewish Americans. Crispus Attucks, a Black sailor, was a victim of the Boston Massacre and considered the first casualty of the American Revolution. Aaron Solomon was a Jewish militia member who fought at the Battle of Bunker Hill. The reputation of Boston as a bastion of liberty is belied by the fact that slavery was legal in the state until 1783. Amid the cruel realities of slavery in the 1770s, Phyllis Wheatley became a celebrated author and the first published Black poet in the Americas.

In the nineteenth century a vibrant free Black community established itself in Boston, notably in the Beacon Hill neighborhood. They used Crispus Attucks' symbolic death for liberty as a rallying cry to advance the abolitionist cause. This was met with enthusiasm by William Lloyd Garrison, who published the anti-slavery newspaper *The Liberator* in Boston in the decades before the Civil War. With Boston as a bastion for the Union cause in the war, Massachusetts organized one of the first Black military units to serve in the Civil War, the 54th Massachusetts Regiment. A plaque memorializing this unit famously stands facing the Massachusetts State House.

The twentieth century saw significant mixing in the city of Boston amid a wide range of ethnicities, races, and religious identities. Jews, Black Protestants, and Roman Catholics of a variety of backgrounds mingled in neighborhoods like the West End, Dorchester, and Roxbury. Martin Luther King, Jr. earned his Doctor of Philosophy degree at Boston University and met and married Coretta Scott King while she was studying at the Boston Conservatory. Racial tensions were a sad reality in Boston and like many American cities, a "white flight" out of the inner city, including from Jewish and Roman Catholic communities, occurred. At the same time, Boston was an early site of dialogue between Christians and Jews in the post-war era. The Archdiocese of Boston was a strong supporter of this work and equal enthusiasm existed within Protestant and Jewish congregations.

This spirit of interreligious engagement is alive and well in Boston. The Greater Boston Interfaith Organization brings together people from across the religious spectrum to find common cause on pressing social issues. The Boston Theological Interreligious Consortium represents ten institutions of religious and theological graduate education across the Greater Boston area through which students can cross-register at member schools and share resources. Both Boston College and Hebrew College have invested deeply in this work through their respective centers in Jewish-Christian and interreligious engagement.

Thomas "Tip" O'Neil, the Boston politician who served as the Speaker of U.S. House of Representatives in the 1980s famously said, "all politics is local." It can also be said that the work of Jewish-Christian relations is local. Context matters and for the work that exists between Christians and Jews in the United States, our context has taken on increasing urgency. We recognize the pressing needs that exist to address both systemic racism and rising antisemitism in our communities. It is my hope that by attending to the theme of "Negotiating Multiple Identities" during this conference, we will be inspired and strengthened for the work ahead. Part of that will be to hear from people from Greater Boston who will share their own insights and experiences in engaging with identity and difference.

May our learning be rich and deep and provide us with what we need to continue this work when we return home.

WELCOME

Rabbi Or Rose

The Miller Center for Interreligious Learning and Leadership, Hebrew College

On behalf of the Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership and the entire Hebrew College community, welcome to the 2023 ICCJ Boston conference!

You honor us with your presence.

In a world struggling mightily with conflict and bloodshed, a gathering such as this to explore our similarities and differences — religious, racial, geographical, and other — with care and consideration is urgently needed.

Further, after the great upheaval caused by the COVID pandemic in recent years, we feel especially grateful to be able to convene in-person for substantive deliberation and fellowship.

Gathering in Boston, a vibrant cosmopolitan hub with a rich interreligious landscape, allows us to explore the conference theme of “Negotiating Multiple Identities” through a range of modalities, including encounters with leading-edge intellectuals, activists, and artists from throughout the region.

Equally important is the opportunity to learn with and from people from other locations about their experiences of identity formation in their distinct settings.

As Kimberlé Williams Crenshaw, the scholar who coined the term “intersectionality” has taught us, in considering issues of power, privilege, inclusivity, and justice, we must pay careful attention to the specific ways in which individuals and groups view themselves and are viewed by others.

I want to thank my colleagues from Boston College, the ICCJ, and all other members of the planning committee. It has been deeply enriching working with you in developing this timely and potentially transformative international gathering.

Again, thank you for joining us and contributing to the creation of a meaningful conference experience!

THE BOSTON CONFERENCE ORGANIZERS

THE INTERNATIONAL COUNCIL OF CHRISTIANS AND JEWS (ICCJ)

After a first international post-war meeting of Jewish and Christian leaders in Oxford, UK in 1946, another so called “emergency conference” as a reaction to the Holocaust, the Shoah, was held in Seelisberg, Switzerland in 1947. It was during this gathering that the resolution was adopted that “in view of the world-wide nature of the task, it is mandatory that the suggestion of the Oxford Conference of August 1946 to establish an International Council of Christians and Jews should be implemented without delay, and that the Continuation Committee then appointed should take energetic action to organize and establish in as many countries as possible Councils of Christians and Jews linked with the International Council.”

In the wake of the Seelisberg conference, the International Council of Christians and Jews was founded. Today, nearly 80 years later, it serves as the umbrella organization of 38 national Jewish-Christian dialogue organizations world-wide.

The ICCJ, together with its member organizations, has been successfully engaged in the historic renewal of Jewish-Christian relations over the last seven decades and has brought theologians, historians, educators, artists, and grassroots organizers together through its work.

In more recent years, the ICCJ and its members increasingly joined in the Abrahamic dialogue among Jews, Christians, and Muslims. The ICCJ's efforts to promote Jewish-Christian dialogue provide models for wider interfaith relations in different contexts, given the specific religious and cultural landscape of a given location.

Through its annual conferences and various consultations, the ICCJ offers a platform where people from different religious backgrounds examine current issues across borders and boundaries, enabling face-to-face and digital exchanges of experience and expertise.

The international headquarters of the ICCJ is located in Heppenheim, Germany, in the house of the great modern Jewish thinker Martin Buber and his family who lived there until Nazi persecution forced them to flee in 1938.

Mission Statement

According to its constitution the ICCJ:

- **promotes** understanding and cooperation between Christians and Jews based on respect for each other's identity and integrity;
- **addresses** issues of human rights and human dignity deeply enshrined in the traditions of Judaism and Christianity;
- **counters** all forms of prejudice, intolerance, discrimination, racism and the misuse of religion for national and political domination;
- **affirms** that in honest dialogue each person remains loyal to his or her own essential faith commitment, recognizing in the other person his or her integrity and otherness;
- **coordinates** worldwide activities through a programme of carefully structured conferences held regularly in different countries. The participants examine current issues across national and religious boundaries, enabling face-to-face exchanges of experience and expertise;
- **encourages** research and education at all levels, including universities and theological seminaries, to promote interreligious understanding among students, teachers, religious leaders, and scholars;
- **performs** outreach in regions that so far have little or no structured Jewish-Christian dialogue, such as Eastern Europe, Africa, and the Far East;
- **provides** a platform for wide-ranging theological debate in order to add a religious choice to the contemporary search for answers to existential and ethical challenges.

Jewish-Christian Relations Net

The ICCJ owns and maintains the online platform *Jewish-Christian Relations Net* (<http://www.jcrelations.net>), which is devoted to fostering mutual respect and understanding between Christians and Jews. It publishes and translates articles, reviews, reports, official statements, and study resources on Jewish-Christian relations from all over the world, making them available in English, French, German, Portuguese, Spanish, and Russian.

To learn more about the ICCJ and its 38 member organizations world-wide visit ICCJ's website on www.iccj.org.

THE COUNCIL OF CENTERS ON JEWISH-CHRISTIAN RELATIONS (CCJR)

The CCJR, ICCJ's national member organization for the United States, is an association of nearly forty centers and institutes in the USA and Canada devoted to enhancing mutual understanding between Jews and Christians. The Council serves as a network for the sharing of information, research, and resources among its members, most of which are housed at universities. There are also affiliate members from overseas. Representatives from major Christian and Jewish agencies and religious bodies in the United States are also members.

Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations

The CCJR publishes an online journal, *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations* (www.bc.edu/scjr) in collaboration with Boston College's Center for Christian-Jewish Learning and Libraries. The e-journal makes available at no charge blind peer-reviewed research articles, CCJR Annual Meeting proceedings, and book reviews.

In the 18 volumes published beginning in 2005, SCJR has published 118 blind peer-reviewed articles, and 303 book reviews. The topics addressed include biblical, dialogical, historical, and theological subjects.

Dialogika

The CCJR maintains an English language supersite for resources and research in Christian-Jewish relations (www.dialogika.us). The website is operated in partnership with the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations of Saint Joseph's University in Philadelphia. Dialogika, "items of dialogue," is an online library that chronicles the evolving conversation and relationship between the Christian and Jewish communities. It provides a comprehensive cyber-archive of official statements, historic documents, educational resources, topics of contemporary concern, and current information.

To learn more about the CCJR, its 32 member organizations and five affiliated members visit CCJR's website on www.ccjr.us.

HEBREW COLLEGE AND THE MILLER CENTER

Founded in 1921, Hebrew College combines the academic study of Judaism and communal engagement through our graduate, community and youth learning, and professional development programs. Striving to be a contemporary equivalent of Abraham and Sarah's tent, with all sides open to anyone who wishes to join in the pursuit of transformational education, Hebrew College is reimagining Jewish learning and leadership for an interconnected world.

Rooted in the Hebraist-Zionist movement of the late 19th and early 20th centuries, we maintain a deep commitment to the importance of Hebrew language and text as a conveyor of Jewish culture and as a link between world Jewry and the State of Israel. We strive to encompass a broad spectrum of Jewish life and to serve as a model *k'lal Yisrael* (inclusive Jewish) community, while welcoming members of other spiritual communities to join the conversation.

We understand that the sacred work of *tikkun olam* requires engagement with a diverse range of people—all of whom are created in the Divine image (*tzelem Elohim*). This undertaking requires an honest and respectful exchange of ideas and a commitment to ongoing dialogue, learning, and action for the common good.

Betty Ann Greenbaum Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership of Hebrew College

Established in 2016 through a generous gift from Dan Miller, a member of the Hebrew College Board of Trustees and husband of the late Betty Ann Greenbaum Miller (of blessed memory), the Betty Ann Greenbaum Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership of Hebrew College (<http://hebrewcollege.edu/miller-center>) provides current and future religious and ethical leaders with the knowledge and skills to serve in a religiously diverse society.

The mission of the Miller Center is rooted in the cultivation of authentic personal and institutional relationships across lines of difference. It is our conviction that through study, dialogue, and joint action, we can help create a more just, compassionate, and sustainable world.

As a growing hub for pluralism, we offer programs for high school, undergraduate, and graduate students, as well as events for the public. In partnership with other educational institutions, the Miller Center also publishes the Journal for Interreligious Studies (<https://irstudies.org/index.php/jirs>), a premier outlet for scholarly reflection on this multidisciplinary field.

Learn more about our work at www.hebrewcollege.edu.

THE CENTER FOR CHRISTIAN-JEWISH LEARNING AT BOSTON COLLEGE

Boston College was founded in 1863 by the Society of Jesus (the Jesuits) to educate Boston's predominantly Irish, Catholic immigrant community. It opened its doors on September 5, 1864, in a building on Harrison Avenue in Boston's South End, a "small streetcar college" for commuting students. When it outgrew the limitations of the space, then-president Rev. Thomas I. Gasson, S.J., bought 31 acres of the former Lawrence Farm in Chestnut Hill, Massachusetts, and broke ground in 1909 on a new campus, today fondly known as "the Heights." Boston College began as an undergraduate liberal arts college, but as its aspirations grew, it added graduate programs and professional schools fulfilling its charter as a university. Through the decades, Boston College has become an internationally respected research university and a center of academic excellence. Boston College seeks to be the national leader in the liberal arts; to fulfill its Jesuit, Catholic mission of faith and service; to continue to develop model programs to support students in their formation; and to seek solutions—as researchers, educators, leaders, and caregivers—that directly address the world's most urgent problems.

Boston College remains committed to leading its students on a comprehensive journey of discovery—one that integrates their intellectual, personal, ethical, and religious formation. Inspiration for Boston College's academic and societal mission is drawn from the University's distinctive religious and intellectual heritage. As a Jesuit Catholic University, Boston College is rooted in a world view that calls us to learn, to search for truth, and to live in service to others. To fulfill that mission, we welcome and embrace the contributions of a diverse student body from many faith traditions.

The Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College is devoted to the multifaceted development and implementation of new relationships between Christians and Jews that are based not merely on toleration but on full respect and mutual enrichment. This defining purpose flows from the mission of Boston College and responds to the vision expressed in Roman Catholic documents ever since the Second Vatican Council.

The building of new, positive relationships between Jews and Christians requires sustained collaborative academic research. Therefore, under the Center's auspices scholars and thinkers representing diverse Jewish and Christian perspectives engage in intense and ongoing study of all aspects of our related yet distinct traditions of faith and culture. Educationally, we are committed to the ideal that engaging with Jews and Judaism is integral to Christian theological learning. We are convinced that Jews and Christians enrich and deepen their respective identities by joint educational endeavors. The Center is thus dedicated to conducting educational

research and to offering programs, both in the university and the wider community, in which Christians and Jews explore their traditions together. In short, the Center applies the scholarly resources of a Catholic university to the task of encouraging mutual knowledge between Christians and Jews at every level.

The Center for Christian-Jewish Learning was established in 2000 with an establishing grant from John M. Corcoran, Boston College Class of 1948, and a first-generation Irish American. Having long seen the need for better understanding between Christians and Jews, Mr. Corcoran's donation ensured that the Center's work of deepening the renewal in Christian-Jewish relations will proceed with full vigor. This work includes the Corcoran Visiting Chair in Christian-Jewish Relations, the annual John Paul II Lecture in Christian-Jewish Relations, other public events and lectures, and administrative support for the journal *Studies in Christian-Jewish Relations*. In addition, the Director of the Center holds the Kraft Family Chair in Jewish-Christian Relations, generously donated by the family of Robert and Myrna Kraft.

2023 INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE BOSTON

Negotiating Multiple Identities: Implications for Interreligious Relations

June 18 – 22, 2023

PROGRAM

SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2023:

Location:

Simmons University, Main Building, Paresky Conference Center,
300 The Fenway, Boston

2.30 - 3.45 pm On-site Registration of Participants
Simmons University, Academic Campus,
Main Building, Common Grounds

4.00 - 5.30 pm **OPENING EVENT** (see p. 34)
+ SEELISBERG PRIZE (see p. 35)

5.30 – 6.30 pm **RECEPTION**

6.30 – 8.30 pm Dinner
(For registered conference participants)

MONDAY, JUNE 19, 2023:

Location:

Hebrew College, 1860 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02466

Denominational prayers will take place in the Simmons University residence halls. Place and time will be posted in the dormitory.

8.30 am Shuttle Service:

Simmons' Residence Campus – Hebrew College

8.30 am On-Site Check-In for Day Guests at Hebrew College

9.30 am Meditative Moment offered by Brandon Crowley

10.00 am PLENARY SESSION I

Moderator: Daniel Joslyn-Siemiatkoski

The Concept of Intersectionality: Promises and Problems for Jewish-Christian Dialogue

This panel will introduce the concept "intersectionality" and discuss connections and tensions in the understanding of antisemitism, racism, and sexism. While there are parallels in teachings of contempt and practices of suppression and exploitation of women, people of color, and Jews, disagreements and controversies often erupt across our communities: intersectional feminism ignores antisemitism, Jewish-Christian dialogue silences women's voices, and racial justice concerns are marginalized. How can this change? Is it possible for the African American feminist concept of intersectionality to become more relevant and productive for Jewish-Christian and interreligious dialogue?

Speakers: Brandon Crowley
Judith Rosenbaum
Katharina von Kellenbach

11.15 am Coffee Break

11.45 am Small Group Discussions

12.30 pm Wrap-Up Round

1.00 pm Lunch

2.30 pm PLENARY SESSION II

Moderator: Rebecca Carter-Chand

The Relation of Antisemitism to Other Forms of Oppression

Today is Juneteenth. It became a United States federal holiday in 2021. The date celebrates the anniversary of the freeing of African American slaves in the state of Texas in 1865, as the Civil War drew to a close. As President Biden stated last June, the day is "a chance to celebrate human freedom, reflect on the grievous and ongoing legacy of slavery, and rededicate ourselves to rooting out the systemic racism that continues to plague our society." He called for all to "stand together against white supremacy and show that bigotry and hate have no safe harboring America." Applying this sensibility to the interreligious context, our plenary speakers will engage in a conversation about the intersections between racism and antisemitism, both here in the United States and globally, even in the absence of local Jewish communities. How are the evils of racism manifest in other forms of prejudice? What is the relationship between white supremacy, Christian hegemony, and colonialism in different contexts?

Speakers: Michael Ipgrave
G. Sujin Pak
Jonathan D. Sarna

4.00 pm Coffee Break

4.30 pm WORKSHOP SESSION A (see p. 22)

Workshop A1

Transformation Through Intersecting Identities: Australian Experiences

Facilitator: Emmanuel Nathan
Presenters: Ron Hoenig, Mary Reaburn

Workshop A2

Students Navigating Intersectionality in Difficult Conversations: Insights from the Building Interfaith Leadership Initiative (BILI) with Undergraduate Leaders

Presenters: Shruti Gupta, Josh Polanski, Tom Reid

Workshop A3

The Interaction of Different Identities in the Mirror of Biblical Texts

Presenters: Jutta Hausmann, Shmuel Szeinhendler

Workshop A4
Dynamic Parallels: Resisting Anti-Judaism and Resisting Oppression
Presenter: Peter A. Pettit

Workshop A5
Orthodox Christian – Jewish Relations: A Different Dialogue
Presenter: Nicolas Kazarian, Richard Marker, David F. Sandmel

6.00 pm Dinner
+ **SHEVET ACHIM AWARD** (see p. 35)

8.00 pm **Shuttle Service:**
Hebrew College – Simmons Residence Campus

TUESDAY, JUNE 20, 2023:

Denominational prayers will take place in the Simmons University residence halls. Place and time will be posted in the dormitory.

8.30 am **Shuttle Service:**
Simmons Residence Campus – BU Thurman Center

9.00 am **VISIT TO THE HOWARD THURMAN CENTER**
Moderator: Soren Hessler

Exploring the Interreligious Legacy of Rev. Howard Thurman

While gathering at the Howard Thurman Center for Common Ground of Boston University (BU), participants will explore the interreligious and social justice legacy of Rev. Howard Thurman. Rev. Thurman was a distinguished African American preacher, writer, educator, and pastor, who played a key role in the Civil Rights movement and was a pioneer in interreligious and cross-cultural engagement. He founded the first major interracial, interdenominational church in the United States. In 1953, he became the Dean of BU's Marsh Chapel and the first African American Dean at a majority-white University. Thurman's 1949 book "Jesus and the Disinherited" was considered a foundational text for many Civil Rights activists, religious leaders and intellectuals, including the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., a graduate student at Boston University during Thurman's tenure. Together, we will view and discuss the recent documentary film "Back Against the Wall: The Howard Thurman Story". The session will be facilitated by Thurman scholars, educators, and organizers, who will help us explore different ways to integrate Thurman's teachings in our world today.

Speakers: Nick Bates
Or Rose
Shively T.J. Smith

11.00 am Coffee Break

11.30 am **WORKSHOP SESSION B** (see p. 25)

Workshop B1
When the Outside and Inside Tell Different Stories: A Reverend and Rabbi Discuss Religious Identity, Public Perception, and Race
Presenters: Daniel Berman, Irene Monroe

Workshop B2
Solidarity is Not a Zero-Sum Game: Racism, Antisemitism, and Cultivating Cultural Literacy with Teens

Presenters: Rafi Ellenson, Seigen Johnson

Workshop B3
The Forgotten Partner: Palestinian Christians in Jewish-Christian Dialogue

Presenter: John S. Munayer

Workshop B4
Jewish Cemetery Restoration in Poland and the Potential of Service Projects for Furthering Jewish-Christian Relations

Presenters: Rebecca Carter-Chand, Katarzyna Kowalska, Steven D. Reece

Workshop B5
From Generation to Generation: Intergenerational Issues in Interreligious Dialogue

Presenters: Martín de Salterain, Shmuel Sztainhendler

**1.00 pm Shuttle Service:
Boston University – "The Embrace" Monument
(King Memorial), Boston Commons**

1.15 pm Lunch Snack

2.00 pm GATHERING AT THE "THE EMBRACE" MONUMENT
Guides: Ana Maria Medina (Embrace Boston)
Elizabeth Tiblanc (Embrace Boston)

2.30 pm **FIELD TRIPS** (see p. 31)

5.30 pm Free Evening

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 21, 2023:

Locations:

**Hebrew College, 1860 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02466 +
Boston College, 245 Beacon Street, 107 Auditorium (Closing Session)**

Denominational prayers will take place in the Simmons University residence halls. Place and time will be posted in the dormitory.

8.30 am Shuttle Service:

Simmons Residence Campus – Hebrew College

8.30 am On-Site Check-In for Day Guests at Hebrew College

9.30 am **Meditative Moment** offered by Ruth Langer

10.00 am **PLENARY SESSION III**

Moderator: Philip A. Cunningham

Collaborating to Confront Oppression

Having explored in previous plenary sessions the concept of intersectionality and how antisemitism relates to other forms of oppression, this panel provides an opportunity to see how these insights play out in specific contexts. In this session, practitioners in the areas of Jewish-Christian and interreligious dialogue will share their insights into best practices to confront oppression, including race, gender, class, and colonialism. This interactive experience will include small group discussion facilitated by our plenary speakers.

Speakers: Tiferet Berenbaum
Martín de Salterain
Katarzyna Kowalska
Peta Pellach

11.30 am Coffee Break

12.00 pm **WORKSHOP SESSION C** (see p. 27)

Workshop C1

"A Bridge Over Hell Creek": Rough Cut Screening and Discussion

Presenter: Elinor Pierce

Workshop C2
A Covenantal Relationship between Church and Synagogue
 Presenters: Michael Shire, Pamela Werntz

Workshop C3
Dismantling Racism from the Inside Out
 Presenters: David Jaffe, Yehudah Webster

Workshop C4
Leveraging Structured Peer Consultancy to Address Challenges in Initiatives Confronting Antisemitism
 Presenters: Rebecca Cohen, Samantha Lin

Workshop C5
Intersectionality in Oppression and Opportunity in the Abrahamic Traditions
 Presenters: Reuven Firestone, Heidi Hadsell, Hannan Hassan

1.30 pm Lunch

2.30 pm **WORKSHOP SESSION D** (see p. 29)

Workshop D1
"By the Waters of Babylon": Intersectional Readings of a Classic Biblical Text
 Presenters: Andrew Davis, Or Rose

Workshop D2
"Artivism" in Action: Three Artists Who are Making Change Through Art
 Moderator: Laura Mandel
 Presenters: Caron Tabb, Jason Talbot, Wen-hao Tien

Workshop D3
Seeking in the Company of Others: The Wisdom of Group Spiritual Direction
 Presenter: Roslyn G. Weiner

Workshop D4
Decoding and Disrupting Antisemitic and Racist Imagery: Examples from German Religion Textbooks and Children's Bibles
 Presenter: Katharina von Kellenbach

Workshop D5
The Twelve Points of Berlin: Educational Guide – A Workshop
 Presenters: Pavol Bargár, Celia Deutsch, Michael Trainor

4.00 pm **Shuttle Service:**
**Hebrew College – Boston College,
 245 Beacon Street, 107 Auditorium**

4.30 pm Coffee Break

5.00 pm **CLOSING SESSION**
 Moderator: Michael Trainor
Bringing It Home
What will we bring back to our communities from this conference? What are some of the key insights we have gleaned over the course of these four days? What challenges will we face in attempting to implement our learning moving forward? This session will begin with brief reflections from a lead speaker and other expert panelists, and will be followed by informal conversation about our conference take-aways and future possibilities.

Speakers: Pavol Bargár
 Heather Miller Rubens
 Yehudah Webster

6.30 pm Closing Dinner
 Boston College, Gasson Hall 100

8.30 pm **Shuttle Service:**
Boston College – Simmons Residence Campus

WORKSHOPS

Workshop Session A – Monday Morning, June 19

A1

Ron Hoenig, Emmanuel Nathan, Mary Reaburn

Transformation Through Intersecting Identities: Australian Experiences

This workshop has three parts. In the first part, two presenters will share Australian experiences of intersectionality as a transformative process for Jewish-Christian relations. Next, a facilitator will guide participants to analyze in small groups the challenges and opportunities of negotiating multiple identities within interreligious relations, concentrating on Jewish-Christian relations. Lastly, the whole group will work together in summarizing and synthesizing what was learned in the smaller groups. Tied closely to the conference theme, this workshop welcomes dynamic engagement with ideas gleaned throughout the conference as well as examples from one's own contexts.

A2

Shruti Gupta, Josh Polanski, Tom Reid

Students Navigating Intersectionality in Difficult Conversations: Insights from the Building Interfaith Leadership Initiative (BILI) with Undergraduate Leaders

Join us for a panel discussion and interactive workshop drawing on insights from the "Building Interfaith Leadership Initiative" (BILI) Fellowship. In this interactive session, panelists will share a case study from a challenging BILI workshop with students, one, which resulted in an escalating conversation about intersectionality and identity. In this case, students engaged with conflicting viewpoints about the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and its relationship with identities like race, gender, and religion. Amid difficult conversations, students and leaders attempted to engage one another with care and effective communication. While the incident was a painful experience for fellows and staff alike, it prompted deep reflection about how we can better engage in pedagogical activities concerning conflicting worldviews in the context of BILI and elsewhere. Join us as we explore this multifaceted case study, share curricular resources from BILI, and engage in learning about a timely and thorny issue of educational praxis.

A3

Jutta Hausmann, Shmuel Szeinhendler

The Interaction of Different Identities in the Mirror of Biblical Texts

In the narrative Gen 16 Hagar and Sara challenge by crossing social boundaries and thereby upset the individual agents as well as a whole family structure. What is encountered as an individual story also becomes a mirror of the challenge posed by the coexistence of groups close to one another and at the same time unequal.

Paul's letters offer a different case with his struggling by changes in his own identity. Using a few smaller sections of text and their reception, we will initiate more far-reaching reflections in the way we deal with individual as well as collective identity.

In dialogue with the texts and with each other we can share where we as Christians and Jews – enriched, sometimes irritated by each other, also hurt – can discover healing, changes in our self-understanding, up to intersections.

A4

Peter A. Pettit

Dynamic Parallels: Resisting Anti-Judaism and Resisting Oppression

In the fall of 2022, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in American issued a guide for "Preaching and Teaching 'With Love and Respect for the Jewish People.'" The title references the church's 1994 Declaration to the Jewish Community and extends the effort to bring to fruition the "urgent desire" to overcome the heritage of its anti-Jewish self-understanding and practices.

The 56-page guide offers background and guidance on ten topics of central concern in the biblical, historical, theological, and liturgical representations of Jews and Judaism.

Recognizing that the *adversus Judaeos* hermeneutics of the early church shaped not only the long development of Christian attitudes toward Jews but also a fundamentally oppositional posture toward all things not Christian, the guide includes the writers' hope that the approaches developed in relation to Jews and Judaism "might in some small way also contribute" to the church's "engagements with other communities that are in some way different from our own." There are "habits of awareness, caution, and discernment" that can be deployed across many sociological and hermeneutical divides to rectify and minimize falsehoods, fears, stereotypes, and stigmas.

This workshop will introduce the ELCA guide and the habits it seeks to cultivate, looking at their function in addressing anti-Jewish patterns in the church. Further, it will engage participants in exploring the potential of these habits in other arenas where church and society encounter divisive and dehumanizing dynamics.

A5

Nicolas Kazarian, Richard Marker, David F. Sandmel

Orthodox Christian – Jewish Relations: A Different Dialogue

For a variety of historical, geographic, theological, and demographic reasons, contemporary Jewish-Christian dialogue has developed primarily within a Catholic and (liberal) Protestant – and decidedly Western – milieu. While there are significant overlaps, the Jewish-Orthodox Christian relationship has its own dynamics. Understanding the unique characteristics of Jewish-Orthodox Christian dialogue is key to productive conversations, whether between Jews and Orthodox Christians, or when Orthodox Christians are part of a broader Jewish-Christian conversation. Each panelist will reflect on their own experience, with a focus on what distinguishes the Jewish-Orthodox Christian relations from Jewish-Christian relations writ large. What are the challenges, obstacles, and opportunities?

Workshop Session B – Tuesday Morning, June 20

B1

Daniel Berman, Irene Monroe

When the Outside and Inside Tell Different Stories: A Reverend and Rabbi Discuss Religious Identity, Public Perception and Race

Reverend Irene Monroe and Rabbi Daniel Berman will share in a conversation about their identities and the experiences that have shaped them, placing their stories in a broader context of the historical intersection of race and faith and the relationship among Jewish and Black Christian communities in the U.S. They will draw on and apply the writings of modern scholars such as Eric Goldstein, Cheryl Greenberg and Terrence L. Johnson, and invite participants to reflect on their own stories.

B2

Rafi Ellenson, Seigen Johnson

Solidarity is Not a Zero Sum Game: Racism, Anti-Semitism, and Cultivating Cultural Literacy with Teens

This workshop explores one particular moment in *The Dignity Project* – an interreligious leadership fellowship program for high school students from Greater Boston. After watching comedian Dave Chappelle's monologue on the American sketch comedy show *Saturday Night Live*, one of our fellows was disturbed by some parts of the monologue. In response, *Dignity Project* staff held a structured dialogue meeting for the fellowship community – with advance preparation – to explore the importance of cultural and religious literacy and leading from a place of curiosity.

During this workshop, we will share our process and insights from focusing on racism and antisemitism with compassionate inquiry and self-reflection.

B3

John S. Munayer

The Forgotten Partner: Palestinian Christians in Jewish-Christian Dialogue

After the Second Vatican Council and up until the events of 9/11, interreligious dialogue has mostly focused on Jewish-Christian dialogue in the West. This is still true today to some extent and has also dominated interreligious dialogue in the Holy Land. However, even though dialogue in the Holy Land has focused on building bridges between Jews and Christians, Palestinian Christians have largely been absent from the "dialogue table" for a number of reasons. Therefore, the proposed workshop seeks to highlight the history of interreligious dialogue in the Holy Land, tackle some of the

complexities of Palestinian Christians to participate in such conversations and suggest new ways of moving forward. This workshop will add value to the participants in understanding the intersectionality of interreligious dialogue in the Holy Land, the identity of Palestinian Christians, and critical perspectives in engaging in interfaith dialogue. The workshop is designed to be interactive and will use the "Hevruta" (חברותא) system to study texts written by various Palestinian theologians such as: Yohanna Katanacho, Munther Issac and Mitri Raheb.

B4

Rebecca Carter-Chand, Katarzyna Kowalska, Steven D. Reece

Jewish Cemetery Restoration in Poland and the Potential of Service Projects for Furthering Jewish-Christian Relations

This workshop will explore a practical approach to advancing Jewish-Christian relations alongside scholarly endeavors, educational initiatives, and formal dialogue. Participants will learn about the work of *The Matzevah Foundation* and its Jewish cemetery restoration efforts in Poland. There are more than 1,200 Jewish cemeteries in Poland; therefore, caring for a Polish-Jewish cemetery speaks to the injustice of the Shoah by uniting Jews and Christians in a joint mission to honor and preserve the Jewish heritage of Poland. Drawing on the 2023 conference theme, the workshop leaders and participants will also discuss the opportunities, benefits, and challenges of bringing together people from different backgrounds (religious, national, linguistic, generational, etc.) for this type of work.

B5

Martin de Salterain, Shmuel Szeinhendler

From Generation to Generation - Intergenerational Issues in Interreligious Dialogue

How does our generational belonging influence the way we take part in interreligious dialogue? What are each generation's motivations for engaging in dialogue and does each have a particular way of doing so? How does our generational diversity – or the lack of it! – come into play within our interreligious organizations? How do we see each other and what expectations are we placing on one another?

We don't have an answer to these questions. But together, through an intergenerational and interreligious conversation, we hope to collectively shed some light to these issues and craft together some useful insights from our analyzed experiences.

Workshop Session C – Wednesday Morning, June 21

C1

Elinor Pierce

"A Bridge Over Hell Creek": Rough Cut Screening and Discussion

In this session, I will screen a rough cut of my short documentary film, *A Bridge Over Hell Creek*. The film introduces the Tri-Faith Initiative, an intentional co-location of a mosque, synagogue, church, and interfaith center in Omaha, Nebraska. Connected by Abraham's Bridge, a shared donation garden, and a quietly disruptive vision, Tri-Faith seeks to build a model of coexistence in the American Midwest. *A Bridge* provides a means to discuss and reflect about the promise – and very real challenges – of bridging difference. One of the first preview screenings of this work-in-progress, this interactive session will invite discussion and feedback.

C2

Michael Shire, Pamela Werntz

A Covenantal Relationship between Church and Synagogue

Emmanuel Church (Episcopal) and Central Reform Temple (Independent Reform) in downtown Boston have formed a special partnership now documented in a Covenantal Relationship document. The relationship includes shared worship space, joint programming, common social justice action, and joint clergy pulpit responsibilities. Above and beyond these logistics is an agreed set of commitments and responsibilities towards each other and towards the world outside our walls. We have drawn upon the biblical concept of covenant (ברית / *brit*) to describe and illuminate our being together. We use a verse from I Samuel 20:23 to encapsulate our intentions and our possibilities:

וְהַדָּבָר אֲשֶׁר דִּבַּרְנוּ אִמְנֵי וְאַתָּה הִנֵּה! הִנֵּה בֵּינִי וּבֵינְךָ עַד-עוֹלָם:

As for the promise we made to each other, may the Eternal be [witness] between you and me forever

We will hear about the process of creating the *brit* and learn how the communities were involved in the process. Also some of the challenges in the process for implementation and sustaining of the *brit*.

C3

David Jaffe, Yehudah Webster

Dismantling Racism from the Inside Out

This workshop, based on a ten-session curriculum of the same name, explores how hierarchies of care, often promoted by religious systems of thought can reinforce systemic racial injustice. As an alternative, this

workshop invites participants into a rigorous practice of balance of care supported by the Jewish spiritual technology of *mussar* (applied Jewish ethics). As a practical example of this spiritually-based balance of care approach, this workshop will address the tension and promise that arises when attempting to simultaneously address manifestations of racism and antisemitism.

C4

Rebecca Cohen, Samantha Lin

Leveraging Structured Peer Consultancy to Address Challenges in Initiatives Confronting Antisemitism

This workshop seeks to offer concrete strategies for dealing with antisemitism, especially in interfaith encounters and contexts. Participants will have the opportunity to engage in scenarios of real-life challenges using the *Consultancy Protocol*, which may be encountered in initiatives and programs for confronting antisemitism. The *Consultancy Protocol*, developed by Gene Thompson-Grove, focuses on the specifics of a real challenge that involves implementation, buy-in, and metrics of success faced by a program for confronting antisemitism. Participants will be able to draw applicable conclusions to their own work, concretely building a "toolbox" of responses to similar challenges in their own work.

C5

Reuven Firestone, Heidi Hadsell, Hannan Hassan

Intersectionality in Oppression and Opportunity in the Abrahamic Traditions

Judaism, Christianity, and Islam have intersected with one another for thousands of years, during which they have experienced tension, competition, and occasional cooperation with one another. They have also shared a great deal. This interactive workshop will explore the common issue of female leadership through the presentation of a case study treating Judaism, Christianity, and Islam in our three scriptural monotheisms. Workshop participants will work together to explore the case and offer suggestions for moving forward on the critical concern presented

Workshop Session D – Wednesday Afternoon, June 21

D1

Andrew Davis, Or Rose

"By the Waters of Babylon": Intersectional Readings of a Classic Biblical Text

Please join us for an interactive workshop in which we engage in a close reading of **Psalm 137** — "By the Rivers of Babylon" — sharing several new multi-media resources on the themes of exile, homecoming, retribution, and justice from an international digital Psalms project. Commentaries include African American, Latino, Jewish, Christian, and Humanist voices. The session will include *havruta* (peer) and large group discussion, video and music clips, poetry, and journal exercises. The goal of our learning is to explore how this psalm — and the broader ancient poetic collection — might serve as a compelling spiritual resource for individuals and groups, particularly those engaged in Jewish-Christian dialogue, study, and joint action.

D2

Laura Mandel, Caron Tabb, Jason Talbot, Wen Hao Tien

"Activism" in Action: Three Artists Who are Making Change Through Art

In a world in need of connection and positive change, *Be the Change* is an "artist" movement produced by the Boston-based Jewish Arts Collaborative that aims to spark hope and action. Inspired by the Jewish tenet of justice and drawing from the ritualistic Jewish Tzedakah box, *Be the Change* makes space to talk about injustice, to connect us all and to give us action steps through the art to be agents of change in our local and global communities. Join Be the Change artists Caron Tabb, Jason Talbot, and Wen Hao Tien in conversation with JArts Executive Director Laura Mandel as they explore the importance of intersectionality in their work.

D3

Roslyn D. Weiner

Seeking in the Company of Others: The Wisdom of Group Spiritual

The intention to talk meaningfully with others whose religious commitments do not mirror one's own is challenging to fulfill. How can we be loyal to our beliefs, values, and faith and simultaneously listen with compassion, intellectual openness, and curiosity to voices which highlight "otherness?" Spiritual direction, recently introduced within the Jewish community, has Christian roots. Its efficacy for interreligious groups is

presently being explored for its potential to fulfill the intention of honest dialogue through practicing the skill of deep listening while experiencing the joy of being witnessed by others. This workshop blends a presentation of the interreligious group spiritual direction model, an experiential component, and a group discussion. No prior exposure to spiritual direction is necessary.

D4

Katharina von Kellenbach

Decoding and Disrupting Antisemitic and Racist Imagery: Examples from German Religion Textbooks and Children's Bibles

Stereotypes thrive in visual environments, where complexity is condensed and information reduced to images and brands. The teaching of contempt in Christian Europe has always used visual cues to construct Jews as racial others (pointy hats and later, noses). But caricatures and stereotypes are not merely a matter of history. More than ever, our minds are molded by digital technologies that produce images and brands that invite and intensify stereotypes.

But this workshop will focus on a different area of concern: children's textbooks and bibles that likewise use simple images to convey complex theological and biblical concepts.

Presumably unintentionally and unconsciously, such textbooks contain quite antisemitic depictions of, e.g. Pharisees, Temple priests, Judas, the observance of Shabbat or contemporary Jewish life, esp. in Israel.

The workshop intends not only to decode but to disrupt such images. What is required in order to create different images for Christian-Jewish relations that cultivate respect rather than contempt for diversity and difference?

D5

Pavol Bargár, Celia Deutsch, Michael Trainor

The Twelve Points of Berlin: Educational Guide – A Workshop

The ICCJ Theology Committee with a group of collaborators has worked on an Educational Guide which aims at enabling individuals and communities to engage more deeply with the ICCJ's document "A Time for Recommitment: The Twelve Points of Berlin".

The workshop will focus on Point 2 of the "Twelve Points of Berlin" which is dedicated to the theme of interreligious dialogue. (Though this is a point addressed to Christians about dialogue with Jews, we will treat it as about reciprocal dialogue between the two communities equally). Members of the Committee will serve as facilitators to moderate the discussion through a series of guiding questions. The aim of the workshop is to introduce participants to the *Educational Guide* and show how they can use it as a helpful resource for Jewish-Christian dialogue in their local communities.

FIELD TRIPS TO LOCAL SITES

2.00 pm: Tour of "Embrace" Monument

2.30 pm: Field Trips

All trips begin from "Embrace" monument

Trip 1: Walking Tour of Jewish Boston

From Boston's renowned Holocaust Memorial back to 18th century Jewish Boston and forward to a private tour of the early 20th century Vilna Shul, our tour and conversation will focus on the landscapes of Jewish immigration to Boston, and on the intersection Black and Jewish lives and histories in Boston's historic West End.

Ellen Smith is Professor Emerita of Brandeis University who has published and curated over 30 books, exhibitions, and catalogs on American Jewish history, including three exhibitions on Jewish Boston. She is co-editor with Jonathan D. Sarna of the book *The Jews of Boston* and was chief consultant to Emmy-award winning television documentary of the same name. She and her husband now live in Franklin County, Massachusetts on 80 acres, where they focus on land and water conservation and climate resilience.

*** Capacity: 25 people.*

This is a three-hour walking tour. Prof. Smith will meet the group at "The Embrace" sculpture at 2:30 PM. Please wear comfortable walking shoes. The walk is mostly flat, with one 2-block climb up part of Beacon Hill. There will be restrooms at the Vilna Shul.

Trip 2: A Visit to the Epiphany School – "No Child Left Behind"

The Epiphany School is an "educational ecosystem" serving students and families in the inner city of Boston. It is an independent school for children from economically disadvantaged families with diverse backgrounds in faith, culture, race, and ability. It also provides support and housing for urban teachers, and extensive services and support for its alumni. Co-founder and Head of School Rev. John Finley and the staff live out their spiritual and ethical values daily through their loving and dignified interactions with their constituents.

Rev. John Finley will introduce the group to the full-service innovative learning community, which combines excellent academic programs with personal social-emotional support for the pressing needs of each student and family. The visit will include a tour of the

school's two campuses – located one block from each other – in which you will witness the many ways this tuition-free, independent Episcopal school lives out its motto “no child left behind.”

Following the tour of the campuses, the group will gather for conversation and refreshments.

Interested participants are welcome to visit the school's website (www.epiphanyschool.com) and email Rev. Finely (jfinley@epiphanyschool.com) with any questions in advance of the tour.

**** Capacity: 30 people.**

The group will travel by bus from “The Embrace” sculpture to the school and then back to the residence halls at Simmons University. The schools' campuses are accessible, and a wheelchair is available. The tour will run 1.5 hours plus travel time.

Trip 3: A Look through the Stained-Glass Window: Stories of Tradition and Innovation

We will visit the acclaimed stained-glass windows of several iconic sacred spaces in the heart of Boston. Highlights include: a visit to the Arlington Street Church, home to what is believed to be the largest collection of Tiffany windows in any one church; a collection of stained-glass windows depicting thirty-six women saints at Emmanuel Church, which shares its campus with Central Reform Temple; and a visit to the St. Paul's Cathedral's Chapel completed in 2016 with its storied Connick windows. The walking route will also take us past major historical sites, including the Boston Commons, the Boston Public Gardens, the Massachusetts State House and ending at Old South Church with its motto of “turn faith into action” near the finish line of the Boston Marathon.

Rev. Dr. Katharine C. Black, a retired Episcopal priest, is the former rector of St. John the Evangelist Episcopal Church and canon at St. Paul's Cathedral. In 2016, Katharine participated in the design and realization of the church's new chapel dedicated to St. John the Evangelist. This work drew on her experience as a life-long resident of Boston, and her prior experience working in the city planning department of Boston.

**** Capacity: 25 people.**

The tour will run 2 to 2.5 hours and cover approximately 1.5 miles / 2.4 km. Rev. Black will meet the group at “The Embrace” sculpture at 2:30 PM.

Trip 4: Freedom Trail Tour

This walking tour will include many of the stops on the 2.5-mile Freedom Trail. This tour will give participants a chance to see sites connected to the American Revolution and colonial Boston. The walking tour will also make a stop at the New England Holocaust Memorial.

Dr. Daniel Joslyn-Siemiatkoski is the Kraft Family Professor and Director of the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College.

**** Capacity: 25-30 people.**

This is a three-hour walking tour. Dr. Joslyn-Siemiatkoski will meet the group at “The Embrace” sculpture at 2:30 PM. Please wear comfortable walking shoes. The walk is mostly flat, with a walk up several flights of outdoor stairs. There will be restrooms at Faneuil Hall.

EVENTS AND MEETINGS

Sunday, June 18, 4.00 pm

Opening Event: Program

MASTERS OF CEREMONY & CONFERENCE CO-CHAIRS

Dr. Daniel Joslyn-Siemiatkoski, Boston College

Rabbi Or Rose, Hebrew College

GREETINGS

Liliane Apotheker, ICCJ President

Rev. Dr. Kevin P. Spicer, CSC, CCJR Chair

Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, Hebrew College, President

Rev. Dr. Gregory Kalscheur, SJ, Boston College, Dean of Morrissey College

OPENING MEDITATION

Rev. Dr. Ray Hammond, Co-Founder and Pastor, Bethel AME Church, Boston, MA

MUSICAL INTERLUDE I

Dr. Delvyn Case: Psalm 133 (Text: KJV)

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!

Yonah Zur, Violin

SEELISBERG PRIZE

Laudation: **Rabbi Dr. Amy-Jill Levine,** Hartford International University

Keynote: **Rev. Dr. Joseph Sievers,** Pontifical Biblical Institute, Rome

MUSICAL INTERLUDE II

Judith Lang-Zaimont: Psalm 143 (Text: CJB)

My spirit faints within me; my heart is appalled within me.

Yonah Zur, Violin

NEXT GENERATION DIALOGUE

Dr. Stephanie Edwards,

Executive Director, Boston Theological Interreligious Consortium

Rabbi Batya Ellinoy,

Somatic Jewish Educator and Consultant

Rev. Kenneth M. Young,

Associate Director, Massachusetts Council of Churches

CLOSING MEDITATION

Rabbi Claudia Kreiman, Senior Rabbi, Temple Beth Zion, Brookline, MA

Sunday, June 18, 4.00 pm

Seelisberg Prize

The Seelisberg Prize is named in memory of the ground-breaking gathering that occurred in the small Swiss village of Seelisberg from 30 July to 5 August 1947 to address perennial Christian teachings of contempt for Jews and Judaism. It issued the very influential "A Call to the Churches: The Ten Points of Seelisberg" which is widely recognized as inaugurating the transformation in relations between Jews and Christians that has unfolded over the past seventy years.

The Seelisberg Prize is awarded annually (since 2022) by the International Council of Christians and Jews (which originated out of the Seelisberg conference) and the Center for Intercultural Theology and Religions at the University of Salzburg. It honors individuals who have played major roles through their scholarship and teaching in advancing the rapprochement between Jews and Christians.

2023 awardee: **Dr. Joseph Sievers**

Monday, June 19, 6.00 pm

Shevet Achim Award

Since 2008, the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations (CCJR) has presented its SHEVET ACHIM AWARD to persons who have made outstanding contributions to Jewish-Christian understanding.

The title comes from the Hebrew text of Psalm 133:1

הִנֵּה מֵה-טוֹב וּמֵה-נְעִים נִשְׁבְּרַת אַחִים גַּם יַחַד

[Hinei ma tov u'manayim shevet achim gam yachad]

Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brothers and sisters to dwell together in unity!

2023 awardee: **Dr. Victoria Barnett**

Other Events and Meetings

Wednesday, June 21, 2.00-2.30 pm

Tour of Mayyim Hayyim, a community *mikveh* adjacent to Hebrew College

There will be a sign-up on Wednesday morning (30-person limit).

Thursday, June 22, 9.00 am – 1 pm

International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ):

Annual General Meeting [AGM]

Simmons University, Academic Campus, Main Building

SPEAKERS AND PRESENTERS

Apotheker, Liliane

France, Liliane Apotheker, President of the International Council of Christians and Jews (ICCJ)

Bargár, Pavol

Czech Republic, Dr. Pavol Bargár, Protestant theologian, assistant professor at Charles University in Prague, member of the ICCJ Executive Board and of ICCJ's Theology Committee

Bates, Nick

USA, Howard Thurman Center, Boston

Berenbaum, Tiferet

USA, Rabbi Tiferet Berenbaum, Rabbi of Congregational Learning and Programing, TBZ Brookline in Brookline, MA

Berman, Daniel

USA, Rabbi Daniel Berman, J.D., Rabbi and spiritual leader of Temple Reyim, Newton

Carter-Chand, Rebecca

USA / Canada, Dr. Rebecca Carter-Chand, Director of Programs on Ethics, Religion, and the Holocaust at the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum

Cohen, Rebecca

USA, Rebecca Cohen, Program and Research Specialist in the US Conference of Catholic Bishops' Secretariat for Ecumenical and Interreligious Affairs, she staffs the bishops' dialogues and supports the ongoing relationships between the bishops and the American Jewish community

Cohen Anisfeld, Sharon

USA, Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, President of Hebrew College

Crowley, Brandon

USA, Rev. Dr. Brandon Crowley, Senior Pastor, Historic Myrtle Baptist Church

Cunningham, Philip A.

USA, Dr. Philip A. Cunningham, Catholic theologian, Professor of Theology and Co-Director of the Institute for Jewish-Catholic Relations of Saint Joseph's University, Philadelphia, former President and Honorary President of the ICCJ

Davis, Andrew

USA, Dr. Andrew Davis, Associate Professor of Old Testament at Boston College School of Theology and Ministry

De Salterain Samudio, Martín

Uruguay, Martín de Salterain Samudio, BA in Social Communications and currently doing a MA in Social Anthropology, head of Student's Affairs at the Catholic University of Uruguay and board member of the Jewish Christian Confraternity of Uruguay

Deutsch, Celia

USA, Dr. Celia Deutsch, NDS, Roman Catholic, Sister of Our Lady of Sion living in Brooklyn, N.Y. (USA), research scholar at Barnard College/Columbia University, and member of the Theological Committee of the ICCJ

Edwards, Stephanie

USA, Dr. Stephanie Edwards, Executive Director, Boston Theological Interreligious Consortium

Ellenson, Rafi

USA, Rafi Ellenson, poet & literary translator, student in the Hebrew College Rabbinical School, and Assistant Director of the Dignity Project at Hebrew College's Miller Center for Interreligious Learning and Leadership

Ellinoy, Batya

USA, Rabbi Batya Ellinoy, somatic Jewish educator and consultant

Firestone, Reuven

USA, Rabbi Dr. Reuven Firestone, Regenstein Professor in Medieval Judaism and Islam at HUC-JIR, affiliate professor at the USC School of Religion, served as Vice President of the Association for Jewish Studies and President of the International Qur'anic Studies Association, Chair of ICCJ's International Abrahamic Forum

Gupta, Shruti

USA, Shruti Gupta, 2019-2020 Building Interfaith Leadership Initiative (BILI) fellow and 2020-2021 alumni liaison, works with free digital education initiatives at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) and will begin graduate studies in data science in fall 2023

Hadsell, Heidi

USA, Dr. Heidi Hadsell, President Emerita of Hartford Seminary and Professor Emerita of social ethics; previously served as Director of the WCC's Ecumenical Institute in Bossey, Switzerland; Dean of McCormick Theological Seminary in Chicago; and professor at Federal University of Santa Catarina, Florianopolis, Brazil; member of the steering committee of ICCJ's International Abrahamic Forum

Hammond, Ray

USA, Rev. Dr. Ray Hammond, Co-Founder and Pastor, Bethel AME Church, Boston, MA

Hassan, Hannan

Singapore, Dr. Hannan Hassan, Deputy Director for Capacity Building and Interfaith Engagement at Muis Academy in Singapore, and Vice-Dean of the Muis Academy, Ph.D. McGill University Institute in Islamic Studies, specializes in Muslim-Jewish relations, interfaith relations, and Islamic law in the Malay Archipelago, member of the steering committee of ICCJ's International Abrahamic Forum

Hausmann, Jutta

Germany, Dr. Jutta Hausmann, Professor emerita, Old Testament scholar, board member of the Hungarian Christian-Jewish Society, rector's advisor for International Affairs and Science Organization, Jewish Theological Seminary - University of Jewish Studies Budapest/Hungary, retired pastor of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Bavaria

Hessler, Soren

USA, The Rev. Dr. Soren Hessler, Vanderbilt University

Hoenig, Ron

Australia, Dr. Ron Hoenig, present Chair of the Australian Council of Christians and Jews and Jewish co-chair of the Council of Christians and Jews for South Australia, has been a Lecturer in Journalism at the University of South Australia in Adelaide

Ippgrave, Michael

UK, Bishop of Lichfield (Church of England), Chair of the UK Council of Christians and Jews

Jaffe, David

USA, Rabbi David Jaffe, founder of the Kirva Institute, where he leads the Inside Out Wisdom and Action Project, has served as an adjunct faculty member at Hebrew College and research fellow at the Boston University School of Theology's Religion and Conflict Resolution Program, Co-President of the Brockton Interfaith Community in Brockton, MA

Johnson, Seigen

USA, Rev. Seigen Johnson, ordained Soto Zen Buddhist priest, MDiv candidate (2024) at the Boston University School of Theology, Graduate Assistant in the Spiritual Life Office, and mentor for Dignity Project at Hebrew College's Miller Center for Interreligious Learning and Leadership

Joslyn-Siemiatkoski, Daniel

USA, Rev. Dr. Daniel Joslyn-Siemiatkoski, Director of the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning and Kraft Family Professor at Boston College

Kalscheur, Gregory

USA, Rev. Dr. Gregory Kalscheur, SJ, Dean of Morrissey College of Arts and Sciences, Boston College

Kazarian, Nicolas

USA, Rev. Nicolas Kazarian, Director of the Department of Inter-Orthodox, Ecumenical & Interfaith Relations at the Greek Orthodox Archdiocese of America

Kowalska, Katarzyna

Poland, Dr. Katarzyna (Kasia) Kowalska, NDS, Sister of Notre Dame de Sion, lecturer in Biblical and Jewish studies, Theological Academy in Warsaw, University of Bethlehem, HTC in Zimbabwe, and the Sion Center for Biblical Formation in Jerusalem

Kreiman, Claudia

USA, Rabbi Claudia Kreiman, Senior Rabbi, Temple Beth Zion, Brookline, MA

Langer, Ruth

USA, Dr. Ruth Langer, Professor of Jewish Studies and Associate Director of the Center for Christian-Jewish Learning at Boston College.

Levine, Amy-Jill

USA, Rabbi Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, Rabbi Stanley M. Kessler Distinguished Professor of New Testament and Jewish Studies at Hartford International University for Religion and Peace, Professor of New Testament Studies Emerita at Vanderbilt University, in spring 2019 she was the first Jew to teach New Testament at Rome's Pontifical Biblical Institute

Lin, Samantha

USA, Samantha Lin, holds an STL in Jewish-Christian Dialogue from the Cardinal Bea Centre for Judaic Studies at the Pontifical Gregorian University, currently the Associate Director of Growth and Student Recruitment at the Cristo Rey Network, a network of 38 Catholic college prep high schools for low income students

Mandel, Laura

USA, Laura Mandel, Executive Director of the Jewish Arts Collaborative

Marker, Richard

USA, Rabbi Dr. Richard Marker, Rabbi and Professor of Philanthropy, Past Chair of both IJCIC-International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations and also Elijah Board of World Religious Leaders

Miller-Rubens, Heather

USA, Dr. Heather Miller Rubens, Roman Catholic Scholar and Executive Director of the Institute for Islamic, Christian & Jewish Studies (ICJS) Baltimore, Maryland

Monroe, Irene

USA, Rev. Irene Monroe, activist, pastor, author and lesbian feminist public theologian and expert in the intersection of racism and antisemitism

Munayer, John S.

Israel, John S. Munayer, Palestinian theologian from Jerusalem, degrees from King's College London, the University of Edinburgh and VU University Amsterdam, interest in researching and writing about Palestinian theology and Christianity, and interreligious dialogue, currently Director of International Engagement at the Rossing Center for Education and Dialogue (Jerusalem)

Nathan, Emmanuel

Australia, Dr. Emmanuel Nathan, teaches biblical studies and comparative theology at the Australian Catholic University in Sydney, chairs the Theology Committee of the Australian Council of Christians and Jews

Pak, G. Sujin

USA, Dr. G. Sujin Pak, Dean of Boston University School of Theology, Professor of the History of Christianity, specialities in early modern history, history of biblical interpretation, and Christian-Jewish relations

Pellach, Peta Jones

Israel, Peta Jones Pellach, Jewish educator and activist, Director of Educational Activities at the Elijah Interfaith Institute, Senior Fellow, Kiverstein Institute, founder of Praying Together in Jerusalem

Pettit, Peter A.

USA, Rev. Dr. Peter A. Pettit, teaching pastor at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Davenport IA, USA, has been engaged in the arena of interfaith relations throughout his career, prior to his call to St. Paul in Davenport in 2019, he was a parish pastor in southern California (1990-1999) and on the faculty of Muhlenberg College in Allentown PA, as Director of the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding

Pierce, Elinor

USA, Elinor (Ellie) Pierce, filmmaker of "A Bridge Over Hell Creek," Research Director, The Pluralism Project at Harvard University

Polanski, Josh

USA, Josh Polanski, Marketing and Communications Manager for Hebrew College and the Miller Center, freelance journalist

Reaburn, Mary

Australia, Dr. Mary Reaburn, NDS, a Sister of Our Lady of Sion, teaches Bible, especially Psalms and Wisdom Literature, at Yarra Theological Union, University of Divinity, member of the Australian Bishops' Council for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations

Reece, Steven D.

USA, Dr. Steven D. Reece, Founder and President of the Matzevah Foundation, Fulbright Scholar to Poland 2022-2023 in Urban Leadership, Adjunct Faculty in Leadership at Andrews University, Berrien Springs, Michigan, USA

Reid, Tom

USA, Rev. Tom Reid, Associate Director of the Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership of Hebrew College and Pastor of Newton Presbyterian Church

Rose, Or

USA, Rabbi Or Rose, founding Director of the Betty Ann Greenbaum Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership of Hebrew College

Rosenbaum, Judith

USA, Dr. Judith Rosenbaum, public historian and scholar of women, gender, and social movements, Chief Executive Officer of the Jewish Women's Archive

Sandmel, David Fox

USA, Rabbi Dr. David Fox Sandmel, Chair of the International Jewish Committee for Interreligious Consultations (IJCIC)

Sarna, Jonathan D.

USA, Dr. Jonathan D. Sarna, University Professor and Joseph H. & Belle R. Braun Professor of American Jewish History, Brandeis University and Chief Historian of the Weitzman National Museum of American Jewish History in Philadelphia

Shire, Michael

USA, Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire, Rabbi of Central Reform Temple and Rabbi-in-Residence at Emmanuel Church, Back Bay, Boston, MA, faculty member at Hebrew College, Boston

Sievers, Joseph

Italy, Dr. Joseph Sievers, Professor emeritus for Jewish history and literature of the Hellenistic period at the Pontifical Biblical Institute in Rome, 2003-2009 Director of the Cardinal Bea Centre for Judaic Studies at the Pontifical Gregorian University, since 1965 member of the Focolare Movement, with whose Center for Interreligious Dialogue he has collaborated since 2002, awardee of the 2023 Seelisberg Prize

Smith, Shively T.J.

USA, Rev. Dr. Shively T.J. Smith, Boston University

Spicer, Kevin P.

USA, Rev. Dr. Kevin P. Spicer, CSC, Stonehill College, Dean of the May School of Arts & Sciences, Chair of the Council of Centers on Jewish-Christian Relations (CCJR)

Szteinhendler, Shmuel

Chile, Rabbi Shmuel Szteinhendler, 2nd Vice President ICCJ, Director of the Center of Religious Studies and Interreligious Relations, Seminario Rabinico Latinoamericano, Member of the Board of Governors IJCIC, President of the Chilean Council of Christians and Jews, Rabbi of the Congregation Beit Emunah, Santiago, Chile

Tabb, Caron

USA, Caron Tabb, Israeli American artist and independent curator

Talbot, Jason

USA, Jason Talbot, Boston-based artist and co-founder of Artists for Humanity

Tien, Weh-hao

US, Dr. Wen-hao Tien, Taiwanese artist, Professor of Art and Design at the University of Massachusetts at Lowell and at the Boston University Department of World Languages and Literatures

Trainor, Michael

Australia, Rev. Dr. Michael Trainor, Catholic priest, Board member and First Vice President of the ICCJ, Chair of ICCJ's Theology Committee, Senior lecturer in Biblical Studies with the Australian Catholic University

Von Kellenbach, Katharina

Germany, Dr. Katharina von Kellenbach, coordinates the *Projekt Bildstörungen*, which is funded by the German Federal Ministry's Commissioner on Antisemitism and administered by the Evangelische Akademie zu Berlin, former Corcoran Visiting Chair in Christian-Jewish Relations at Boston College and Professor Emerita of Religions Studies at St. Mary's College of Maryland

Webster, Yehudah

USA, Yehudah Webster, spiritual activist and community organizer, Program Director and Core Faculty Member at Inside Out Wisdom and Action Project, graduate of Jews for Racial and Economic Justice's Grace Paley Organizing Fellowship, Bend the Arc's Selah Leadership Program, and Inside Out Wisdom and Action Project's Ovdim Fellowship

Weiner, Roslyn G.

USA, Dr. Roslyn G. Weiner, spiritual director, psychologist, and author

Werntz, Pam

USA, Rev. Pam Werntz, Rector of Emmanuel Church, Back Bay, Boston and Dean of the Boston Harbor Deanery

Young, Kenneth M.

USA, Rev. Kenneth M. Young, Associate Director, Massachusetts Council of Churches

CONFERENCE SITE LOCATIONS

Simmons University

Address: 300 The Fenway, Boston, MA 02115

Public Transportation – nearby T Stop:

Green Line E *Museum of Fine Arts* stop

Parking:

The Simmons University parking garage is located on the academic campus in the Management and Academic Building.

A paid or validated ticket is required to exit the garage.

Hebrew College

Address: 1860 Washington Street, Newton, MA 02466

Public Transportation – nearby T Stop:

Green Line D *Woodland* stop

Parking:

Hebrew College has ample free parking and easy access to the building.

Howard Thurman Center at Boston University

Address: 808 Commonwealth Ave, Brookline, MA 02446

Public Transportation – nearby T Stops:

Green Line B *Amory Street* stop,

Green Line C *Hawes Street* stop,

Green Line D *Fenway Station* stop

Boston College

Address: 140 Commonwealth Avenue, Chestnut Hill, MA 02467

Public Transportation – nearby T Stop:

Green Line B *Boston College* stop

Parking:

Visitor parking is available in the University's two central garages—the Commonwealth Avenue Garage and the Beacon Street Garage. A paid or validated ticket is required to exit the garage.

THE 2023 BOSTON PLANNING COMMITTEE

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Ruth Langer (Boston College)

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Katharina von Kellenbach (Ev. Akademie, Berlin)

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