

2019 JEWISH EDUCATION CONFERENCE

BLOSSOMING

פריחה PRICHA

**HEBREW COLLEGE,
NEWTON CENTRE, MA**

**MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11 &
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12**



המכללה העברית

HEBREW COLLEGE

LIFELONG JEWISH LEARNING

at Hebrew College

COMMUNITY PROGRAMS for teens and adults

Makor and Prozdor *middle and high school*

Jewish Teen Foundation of Greater Boston *high school*

Open Circle Jewish Learning *conversation-based learning, with groups for 20's and 30's, as well as adults of all ages*

Parenting & Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens *new parents, parents of teens and tweens, grandparents*

Me'ah and Me'ah Select *rigorous learning over two years or an academic semester*

Rabbinical, Cantorial & Graduate Education Classes *non-credit courses open to the community*

Hebrew Language Ulpan *intensive Hebrew language*

Professional Development *Hebrew College Fall 2019 Educator Conference and more...*



GRADUATE AND ORDINATION PROGRAMS for Jewish leaders and learners

Rabbinical Ordination · Cantorial Ordination

Master of Jewish Education · Master of Arts in Jewish Studies

Dual Master of Jewish Education/Master of Arts in Jewish Studies



"Participating in the Open Circles course was a gift I gave to myself... I experienced renewed delight and connection within Jewish community and with learning *lishmah* (for the sake of learning). If we Jewish educators are to 'talk the talk' — encouraging others to invest in their Jewish education and Jewish engagement, then we ourselves must first 'walk the walk' — investing in our own personal Jewish journeys."

- Arinne Braverman, educator, consultant, community organizer, and Open Circle Jewish Learning participant

HEBREW COLLEGE is a Boston-area institution of Jewish learning and leadership with a dual focus on community learning and graduate leadership — each of which strengthens the other — within a pluralistic environment of open inquiry, depth, creativity, and compassion.



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear friends and colleagues,

We are delighted to welcome you to the 2019 Educator's Conference at Hebrew College, *Pricha* (Blossoming).

The Book of Proverbs advises, "Teach a child according to his own path, and even when he grows old, he will not stray from it." Commenting on this verse, Rabbi Kalonymus Kalman Shapira, the rebbe of the Warsaw Ghetto, writes: "Teach the child" means "to penetrate to his inner being and reveal the holiness that is hidden there. A teacher is a gardener in the garden of God, assigned to cultivate it and guard it."

We are honored to host all of you for this annual gathering – you who are gardeners in the garden of God, tending to your students with patience and skill, daily dedication and care, to ensure that the souls that have been planted within each of them can blossom and grow.

Thank you for all you do.

With gratitude and *kavod* (respect),

Sharon

RABBI SHARON COHEN ANISFELD
President, Hebrew College





LETTER FROM THE CONFERENCE CHAIR

Shalom and Welcome to Hebrew College's Annual Jewish Education Conference.

Judaism offers many opportunities to reflect and grow during the cycle of the year and cycle of life. In the summer, we start with the Hebrew month of Elul, when with the sounding of the *shofar* we are called and reminded to reflect upon our lives and choices and find ways to improve ourselves. In Hebrew, the word, *shofar*, is derived from the same root as *lehishtaper* (improve ש.פ.ר). Soon, Rosh Hashanah follows, where we start a new beginning. The word, *rosh*, in Hebrew means, "head;" we are reminded to use our heads, think, and take control over our lives. In the Sephardic tradition, on Rosh Hashanah, in addition to placing apples and honey on the table, we add a whole fish, expressing the wish that we will be like the head and not the tail, again reminding us to think, take responsibility, and act. The 10 days of awe, Yom Kippur, the holidays of Sukkot and Simchat Torah are also part of this cycle of reflection, appreciation, joy, learning, and connection to ourselves, the Jewish family and the world.

We have designed the conference to be a continuation of this process of reflection with emphasis on Jewish education. Thank you for taking the time to pause, ask questions, think, and challenge yourself as we work together to explore what it means to bloom as educators working in Jewish organizations. How can we nurture and help our students and families thrive?

The art in the program is by my mother-in-law, Nira Raz, an Israeli sculptress. The sculpture on this page represents the hope and wish for the new life that is about to hatch, a life full of promise and potential. What the bird is wishing for we can only imagine, and how it sees the future for its offspring only she knows. Like the bird, we are full of hopes and plans. In this conference, together and on our own, we will examine some of those ideas.

We have also planned many professional development learning opportunities for you that will continue over the course of the year. We hope to see many of you as we continue to reflect, study and grow.

May we all grow from strength to strength.

Warmly,
Rachel

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'RZ' with a stylized flourish.

Rachel Raz
Director, Early Childhood Institute
Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education, Hebrew College



Anticipation

LETTER FROM THE DEAN

Psalm 92: 13-14

צִדִּיק כְּתֵמָר יִפְרַח כְּאַרְז בְּלִבְנוֹן יִשְׁגֶּה:

The righteous bloom like a date-palm; they thrive like a cedar in Lebanon;

שְׁתוּלִים בְּבֵית יְהוָה בְּחִצְרוֹת אֱלֹהֵינוּ יִפְרִיחוּ:

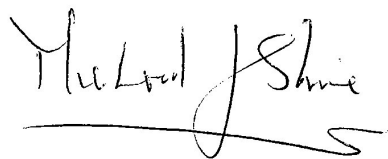
planted in the house of the LORD, they flourish in the courts of our God.

Psalm 92 offers us a connection between a good person and the natural growth of a tree. All the verbs cited are descriptions of growing and thriving (bloom, thrive, planted, flourish) as the good person learns how to live in the sacred and significant places. So too, we in Jewish Education prepare our students to learn how to live in sacred time and holy spaces of the Jewish calendar and lifecycle. Our role is to foster their growth and flourishing so that they will thrive in themselves, their families and their communities.

Our conference this year is dedicated to this idea of Jewish Education as a means of students' thriving and blossoming into fully formed and capable members of their families and communities, contributing to the shape of their own Judaism and its expression in their lives and being responsible for the care and thriving of others around them. This new paradigm of Jewish formation has opened so many exciting and innovative doors and we are excited to share them with you. As a pioneer in this work of Jewish Thriving in Jewish Education, we welcome your explorations with us into this new work so we can establish together many different ways in which this can be an enhancement and a fulfillment for our families and our students.

Thanks to all who are contributing this year and to our organizers Rachel Raz, Linna Ettinger and their conference committee.

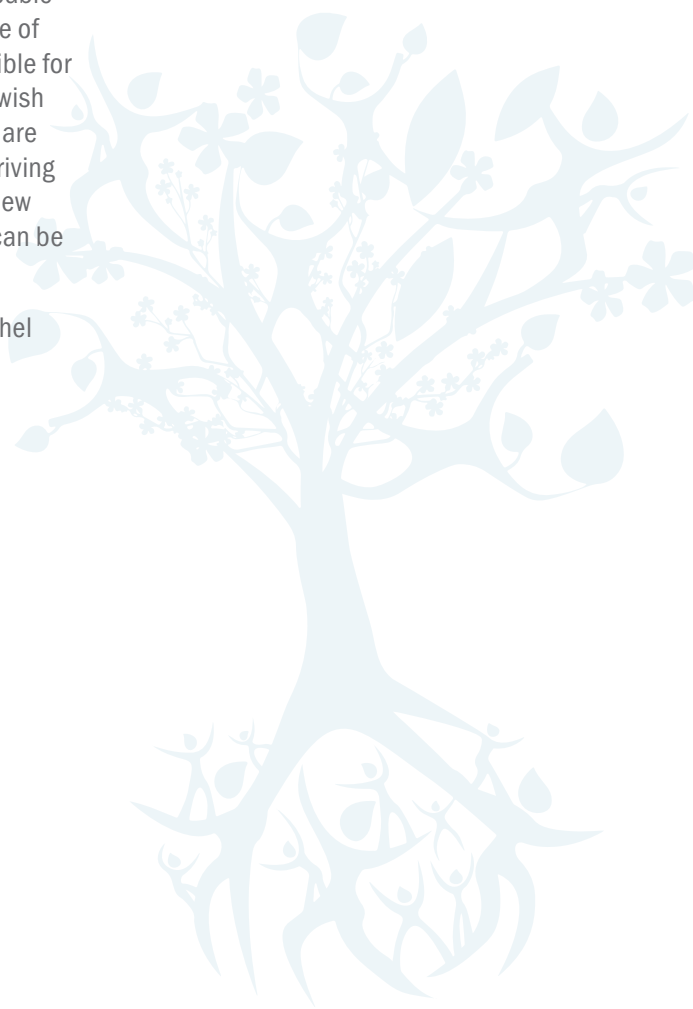
Michael Shire



Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire

Dean

Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education, Hebrew College



SESSIONS AT A GLANCE

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2019

8:30-9:30 AM REGISTRATION, MAIN ENTRANCE

Light Breakfast, Berenson Hall, Lower Level

Welcome and Opening Remarks, Berenson Hall, Lower Level

Rachel Raz, Conference Chair

Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire, Chief Academic Officer, Dean, Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education

9:45 AM TO 11:00 AM BREAKOUT SESSION 1

- ☐ **Introduction to Judaism's 10 Best Ideas** (Rabbi Dr. Arthur Green)
Berenson Hall, Lower Level
- ☐ **Purposeful Musical Play: Weaving Loose Parts, Music and Stories Into the Jewish Early Childhood Classroom** (Ellen Allard and Amy Bolotin) Rooms 4-5, *Tichnor* Conference Center
- ☐ **Jewish Education for Human Thriving: Mindfulness, Mussar (Ethics) and Beyond** (1st-12th Grade)
(Rabbi Jethro Berkman) Elovitz Board Room, Upper Level
- ☐ **Yetzirah (Creativity) in our Jewish and Israeli Heritage as a Paradigm for Pricha (Blossoming)**
(Marion Gribetz) Rooms 1-2, *Tichnor* Conference Center
- ☐ **Are Your Students Partners in Creation? How J-STEAM Integrated Pedagogy Can Help Students Bloom**
(Pre-K-7th Grade) (Dr. Jared Matas) Rooms 102-103, Lower Level
- ☐ **Mental Health in the Classroom – The 3 R's: Roles, Responsibilities and Resources** (1st-12th Grade)
(Walter Lyons) Room M120, Lower Level
- ☐ **B'tzelem Elohim, Created in the Image of God: We Are All the Same! Each One of Us Is Unique! How Does That Work?** (K-4th Grade) (Rabbi Ma'ayan Sands) Executive Dining Room, Lower Level
- ☐ **Meeting Children Where They Are: Special Education Methods in the Preschool Classroom (Double Session)** (Sandy Gold and Sherry Grossman) Rooms 106-107, Lower Level

11:15 AM TO 12:30 PM BREAKOUT SESSION 2

- ☐ **Gender Equality for Boys and Girls – Principles, Goals and Challenges**
(Yael Boim-Fein) Rooms 102-103, Lower Level
- ☐ **Introduction to Hassidic Niggun and Storytelling as Spiritual Practice**
(Rabbi Dr. Nehemia Polen) Elovitz Board Room, Upper Level
- ☐ **Israel Everyday** (Andrea Shapiro) Rooms 4-5, *Tichnor* Conference Center
- ☐ **Beyond Jewish Holidays: Nurturing Jewish Ways of Learning in a Preschool Classroom**
(Lucy Banerji, Talia Elliott, Leah Hough and Lynne Rubinger) Rooms 1-2, *Tichnor* Conference Center
- ☐ **Soulful Teaching: Helping Students Blossom into Wholeness** (4th-12th Grade) (Michal Smart)
Executive Dining Room, Lower Level
- ☐ **Supporting All Students: Universal Design for Learning in Inclusive Classrooms**
(Sarah Kerstein) Room M120, Lower Level
- ☐ **Meeting Children Where They Are: Special Education Methods in the Preschool Classroom (Double Session, continued)** (Sandy Gold and Sherry Grossman) Rooms 106-107, Lower Level

12:30 PM TO 1:30 PM LUNCH AND LEARN, BERENSON HALL, LOWER LEVEL

Rachel Raz and Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, President of Hebrew College

1:45 PM TO 3:00 PM BREAKOUT SESSION 3

- ☐ **Judaism's 10 Best Ideas: An Open Conversation** (Rabbi Dr. Art Green) Berenson Hall, Lower Level
- ☐ **Introduction to Early Childhood Mental Health: Core Principles Make Healthy Relationships** (Gilad Amshalom) Rooms 106-107, Lower Level
- ☐ **SPIRIT: The Elements Needed for Flourishing in the Classroom: Space, Play, Imagination, Relationships, Inner Life, Text** (Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire) Rooms 4-5, Tichnor Conference Center
- ☐ **Igniting the Spark of Amazement Through Nature** (ECE) (Johanna Perlin and Kat Horion) Rooms 102-103, Lower Level
- ☐ **From Page to Stage: Bringing Jewish Stories to Life** (ECE) (Felicia Sloin and Kate Holdsworth-Clarke) Rooms 1-2, Tichnor Conference Center
- ☐ **Connection, Knowledge, Stance: Goals and Frameworks for Israel Education** (8th-12th Grade) (Dr. Jonathan Golden) Room M120, Lower Level
- ☐ **Educating for Jewish Spiritual Life*** (Rabbi Sam Feinsmith) **For the IJS Cohort only* Elovitz Board Room, Upper Level

3:15 PM TO 3:45 PM ISRAELI DANCE WITH KFIR MIZRAHI, BERENSON LOWER LEVEL

3:45 PM TO 5:15 PM For Western Massachusetts Cohort Only: REFLECTION AND DINNER, BERENSON HALL, LOWER LEVEL

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019

8:30-9:15 AM REGISTRATION, MAIN ENTRANCE

Light Breakfast, Berenson Hall, Lower Level

Welcome and Opening Remarks, Berenson Hall, Lower Level

Rachel Raz, Conference Chair

9:30 AM TO 10:45 AM BREAKOUT SESSION 4

- ☐ **What's Jewish About Pomegranates?** (ECE) (Andrea Shapiro) Rooms 4-5, Tichnor Conference Center
- ☐ **Nurturing the Child by Partnering with Parents and Caregivers** (Infants-Kindergarten) (Erica Streit-Kaplan and Faye Tonkonogy) Rooms 106-107, Lower Level
- ☐ **Multiculturalism as a Way to Transform Jewish Early Childhood and Day Schools** (Dr. Roberta Goodman and Rabbi Stephanie Wolfe) Rooms 106-107, Lower Level
- ☐ **Introduction to Project Based Learning (PBL)** (Dr. Ronit Ziv-Kreger) Executive Dining Room, Lower Level
- ☐ **What Kind of Technology in Jewish Education Will Help Students Thrive?** (1st-12th Grade) (Wilma Poyser) Rooms 1-2, Tichnor Conference Center
- ☐ **If My School Really Lived Its Values, What Would That Look Like on Instagram? Navigating the Ethics of Social Media So Communities Thrive** (Rachel Levitt Klein Dratch) Room M120, Lower Level
- ☐ **The Jewish Relationship to the Land of Israel: Biblical and Ancient Foundations** (Dr. David Bernat) Elovitz Board Room, Upper Level

11:00AM TO 12:15PM BREAKOUT SESSION 5

- ☐ **A Passion for a People** (Avraham Infeld) Berenson Hall, Lower Level
- ☐ **SING! SING! SING! A Music-Based Approach to Cognitive, Language, Social, Physical and Spiritual Development in the Jewish Early Childhood Classroom** (Ellen Allard) Rooms 1-2, *Tichnor* Conference Center
- ☐ **Inspiring, Meaningful and Enduring Documentation in the Early Childhood Classroom** (Gina Tzizik) Rooms 106-107, Lower Level
- ☐ **Gender Equality for Boys and Girls – Principles, Goals and Challenges** (Yael Boim-Fein) Rooms 102-103, Lower Level

12:15PM TO 1:30PM LUNCH AND CONNECT, BERENSON HALL, LOWER LEVEL Rachel Raz, Conference Chair

1:45PM TO 3:00PM BREAKOUT SESSION 6

- ☐ **The Jewish People and Jewish Education: A Conversation with Jewish Leaders** (Avraham Infeld, Rabbi Dr. Arthur Green, Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld) Berenson Hall, Lower Level
- ☐ **Exploring Jewish Identity Through the Study of Modern Jewish Short Stories** (8th-12th Grade, Adults) (Lisa Micley and Annette Ehrlich Lakein) Executive Dining Room, Lower Level
- ☐ **Game Based Learning in the Jewish Classroom** (4th-12th Grade) (Heidi Lovitz) Rooms 102-103, Lower Level
- ☐ **Blossoming into Jewish Adulthood: Preparing Students of All Abilities for *B'nei Mitzvah*** (Rebecca Redner and Susan Morrel) Rooms 4-5, *Tichnor* Conference Center
- ☐ **Project Based Learning (PBL) Boot Camp (Extended session until 3:45)** (Dr. Ronit Ziv-Kreger) Rooms 1-2, *Tichnor* Conference Center
- ☐ **Fostering Confidence and Independence Through Reggio Inspired Integrated Arts (ECE)** (Angelica Rona) Rooms 102-103, Lower Level
- ☐ **How Can We Cultivate Acts of Social Competence in the Classroom?** (ECE) (Vivian Terkel-Gat) Elovitz Board Room, Upper Level

3:00PM TO 4:00PM REFLECTIONS AND NEXT STEPS, BERENSON HALL, LOWER LEVEL



Father's Pride

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2019

9:45AM TO 11:00AM BREAKOUT SESSION 1

Introduction to Judaism's 10 Best Ideas

Rabbi Dr. Art Green, Founding Dean and Rector of the Rabbinic School, and Irving Brudnick Professor of Jewish Philosophy and Religion at Hebrew College | Berenson Hall, Lower Level

Author Rabbi Art Green will introduce what he writes are the best ten ideas that Judaism has to offer humanity, and how this framework can enhance the Jewish experience in our communities.

Purposeful Musical Play: Weaving Loose Parts, Music and Stories into the Jewish Early Childhood Classroom

Ellen Allard, Music Performer, Educator, Composer and Coach, Amy Bolotin, Director, JCC Early Learning Center, Jewish Community Centers of Greater Boston | Rooms 4-5, Tichnor Conference Center

Abraham Joshua Heschel wrote: "What seems to be a stone is a drama." Join Ellen Allard and Amy Bolotin as they help participants explore how to use Jewish stories and music as a catalyst for loose parts play. Learn how mindfully incorporating a Jewish layer of meaning to the creative play opportunities offered to children will enable them to actively construct and expand their own knowledge.

This session is for early childhood educators.

Jewish Education for Human Thriving: Mindfulness, Mussar (Ethics) and Beyond

Rabbi Jethro Berkman, Dean of Jewish Education, Gann Academy | Elovitz Board Room, Upper Level

What is Jewish education for? For many, "Jewish continuity" or "strengthening Jewish identity" is not a sufficient answer. In an age of increasing isolation and disconnection, Jewish tradition offers powerful wisdom and practices for living a happier, healthier, more connected life. This session will explore the possibilities (and risks) of approaching Jewish education through the lens of human thriving, and will offer examples of such an approach in a high school setting.

This session is appropriate for educators working with 1st through 12th grade.

Yetzirah (Creativity) in our Jewish and Israeli Heritage as a Paradigm for Pricha (Blossoming)

Marion Gribetz, Director of Initiatives | Hebrew College Rooms 1-2, Tichnor Conference Center

We will explore together the Biblical origins of human creativity and follow the thread of Jewish creativity from Biblical times to Contemporary Israel and throughout the Jewish world. From Bezalel in the Bible, to the origins of the Bezalel school in the early 20th century to today and throughout the Jewish world, creativity is a core value that has been actualized throughout Jewish history. Through an exploration of visual arts, poetry and more, we will find examples that can inspire creativity that continues to inspire us and our communities as we build a Jewish future.

Are Your Students Partners in Creation? How J-STEAM Integrated Pedagogy Can Help Students Bloom

Dr. Jared Matas, Director of STEM Innovation at the Boston Jewish Community Day School (JCDS), and Director of J-STEAM, Jewish Interactive | Rooms 102-103, Lower Level

J-STEAM, an approach that integrates modern technology and pedagogy with timeless Jewish learning, can help students bloom and become Partners in Creation. This hands-on workshop will explore innovative J-STEAM lessons that encourage integration of Jewish learning with both content and skills across the curriculum. Projects as diverse as 3D design, digital game-making, film recording and coding will be highlighted as vehicles for students to grapple with Text, connect to Israel, develop Hebrew language proficiency and celebrate their way through the Jewish calendar and lifecycle. Educators will learn how integrating important science, technology, engineering and math content with both fine arts and liberal arts encourages students to develop integrated Jewish identities.

This session is appropriate for educators working with children ranging from Pre-K to 7th grade.

Mental Health in the Classroom (1st-12th Grade) – The 3 R's: Roles, Responsibilities and Resources

Walter Lyons, Mental Health Specialist, Gateways | Room M120, Lower Level

We will examine how to recognize and cope with mental health concerns in the 1st through 12th grade classroom. Concerns include: what are realistic expectations for both teachers and parents; how to recognize and provide for students with both diagnosed and undiagnosed disabilities; what is the role of an IEP (Individual Education Plan); and what resources are available.

For educators working with children ranging from 1st to 12th grade.

B'tzelem Elohim, Created in the Image of God: We Are All the Same! Each One of Us Is Unique! How Does That Work?

Rabbi Ma'ayan Sands, Temple B'nai Shalom (Braintree, MA), Congregation Mishkan Tefillah (Brookline, MA) and Providence House (Allston, MA)
Executive Dining Room, Lower Level

It has been written: "The entire Torah is called a shir, a song, (Deut. 31:19). The essence and the beauty of our song unfolds when all the variety of voices join together." (R. Yechiel Michel Epstein in the introduction of *Arukh haShulkhan* to *Choshen Mishpat*.)

In her book, *Nobody Ever Told Them They Are Different*, Rabbi Sands has created a world in which everybody has what he or she needs, physical differences are irrelevant, love and compassion abound. In this session, educators will "drive the train;" sharing the story and brainstorming about how to apply its message to their classrooms, and in fact, integrate it into the lives of their students' families and the broader community. How can we create nourishing and supportive classroom communities? How can we assure each individual has what he or she needs to thrive? How can we not only acknowledge but celebrate our differences? Easy and effective methods to support parents to engage with these challenging but critical issues can be discussed.

The primary target group for this session is educators working with Grades K through 4.

Meeting Children Where They Are: Special Education Methods in the Preschool Classroom (Double session*)

Sandy Gold, Director of Jewish Education Programs for Gateways and Adjunct Faculty for the Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education
Sherry Grossman, Gateways Senior Coach | Rooms 106-107, Lower Level

We welcome every child into the Jewish community. To help them thrive, this workshop is designed to support early childhood professionals as they build on their skills to integrate atypically developing children into their school and classroom. In this double session workshop, educators will review principles of child development and engage in discussions of typical vs. atypical development. After thinking about behavior and examining strategies that educators can use in the classroom, participants will work on making use of various tools to help create an action plan for an individual child.

**Please note that participants are required to attend both sessions of this workshop. This double session is for early childhood educators.*

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2019

11:15AM TO 12:30PM BREAKOUT SESSION 2

Gender Equality for Boys and Girls - Principles, Goals and Challenges

Yael Boim-Fein, Director, the Israeli Institute for Gender Equality in Education | Rooms 102-103, Lower Level

We are witnessing dramatic changes in terms of equality between man and women. But, it seems that the questions – what does it mean to educate a boy and what does it mean to educate a girl – are as relevant as ever. One of the most pressing issues is that when thinking about gender we usually refer to girl's empowerment. But what about the boys? What are the gendered barriers preventing boys from fully developing their potential?

In this workshop we will discuss principals and goal setting, challenges and opportunities for advancing gender equality as educators, and share ideas and thoughts on how to implement practices that create a gender balanced educational setting.

Introduction to Hassidic Niggun and Storytelling as Spiritual Practice

Rabbi Dr. Nehemia Polen, Professor of Jewish Thought, Hebrew College | Elovitz Board Room, Upper Level

This workshop is an invitation to explore the wonderful world of hasidic *niggun* (sacred melody, often wordless). There is sheer pleasure in this noble and gracious practice that enables one to be both the producer and the receiver of sound with great beauty and depth. With *niggun* in our hearts, we carry within us the sublime notes of soul-expression that one may choose to share with others or embrace within. *Niggun* allows us to feel the body's resonant cavities richly; it opens the spirit and points both high and deep with the promise of ever-greater alertness and aliveness.

We will also introduce the world of hasidic storytelling. Hasidic stories are wisdom tales that point to universal values and meaning. They assist us in cultivating an inner perspective, helping us to see challenging situations through fresh eyes and expansive horizons. The tales open our eyes to wonder, lead to a reversal of expectations, uncover inner levels of meaning, effecting inner transformation. They embody the values of nobility, presence and listening respectfully to all voices, especially the marginalized and powerless. Many hasidic tales describe miracles, but the real miracle is to open our hearts with greater compassion and appreciation for all creatures.

Israel Everyday

Andrea Shapiro, Dor Chadash (Young Family) Coordinator, Temple Emanuel | Rooms 4-5, *Tichnor* Conference Center

The word “Israel” has different meanings to different people, including the connection to the land, the people, the modern state of Israel, and more. During this session we will begin to examine what Israel means to participants, and ways in which participants can bring Israel into the classroom every day. By using interactive hands-on experiences, we will delve into some of the different dimensions of Israel as well as explore different lenses for those who already incorporate Israel in their classroom.

This session is appropriate for educators in any setting with any level of knowledge or experience with the land and Modern State of Israel.

Beyond Jewish Holidays: Nurturing Jewish Ways of Learning in a Preschool Classroom

Lucy Banerji, Director, Temple Shalom Nursery School (Newton) Talia Elliott, Judaic and Nature Curriculum Coordinator, Temple Shalom Nursery School (Newton) Leah Hough, Lead Toddler and Preschool Teacher, Temple Shalom Nursery School (Newton) Lynne Rubinger, Lead Teacher, Temple Shalom Nursery School (Newton) | Rooms 1-2, *Tichnor* Conference Center

The team of Temple Shalom Nursery school in Newton MA will share their experience of rethinking their educational practices to root them in Jewish tradition and wisdom. The journey was (and is still) full of learning, explorations and struggles, but their efforts have blossomed into a more inclusive program and joyful atmosphere for children and educators. In this session the team will share their journey using video documentation and personal reflections. The teachers will discuss how viewing and building classroom structures with the lenses of Jewish *hevruta* lead to children’s collaboration, learning from one another and community building. Learn how to create a culture of authentic Jewish learning in a school that encourages the practice of child’s agency, engagement, dialogue and meaning-making with partners.

This session is for early childhood educators.

Soulful Teaching: Helping Students Blossom into Wholeness

Michal Fox Smart, Director, Ayeka North America | Executive Dining Room, Lower Level

Ayeka (Hebrew for “Where are you?”) trains Jewish educators in soulful pedagogy, helping Torah study touch student’s hearts and souls and impact their daily lives. In this active workshop, participants will explore a short text by HaRav Kook* which lies at the core of Ayeka’s pedagogy. HaRav Kook teaches that the purpose of education is “spiritual unity,” and that learning must address not only students’ intellects, but also their emotions, actions and imagination. Using all four faculties ourselves, participants will expand their own capacity to be effective in each of these dimensions. This approach will help Judaic Studies address students’ real lives, and bring the benefit of Jewish wisdom into their relationships and engagement with the world.

This session is for educators working with 4th through 12th grade.

**HaRav Avraham Yitzchak HaCohen Kook, or HaRav Kook for short, was the first Ashkenazi Chief Rabbi of British Mandatory Palestine in the Land of Israel, the founder of Yeshiva Mercaz HaRav (The Central Universal Yeshiva), a Jewish thinker, Posek, and Kabbalist. He is considered one of the fathers of religious Zionism.*

Supporting All Students: Universal Design for Learning in Inclusive Classrooms

Sarah Kerstein, Special Education Teacher, Boston Public Schools; Inclusion Coordinator, URJ 6 Points Sci-Tech Academy; Consultant and Coach, Gateways: Access to Jewish Education | Room M120, Lower Level

Jewish tradition teaches us that we have an obligation to include and support all members of our community. Inclusive classrooms can create a sense of belonging and community for all by allowing students with and without identified needs equal opportunities to succeed. But how does one successfully create an inclusive community in Hebrew school classrooms and beyond? Universal Design for Learning (UDL) is a framework for thinking about instruction that gives educators the skills and strategies to intentionally design instruction in a way that works for everyone. In this session we will explore Universal Design for Learning, including tools for eliminating barriers in the design of the learning environment and instruction to make our classrooms accessible for all.

Meeting Children Where They Are: Special Education Methods in the Preschool Classroom (Double session, continued*)

Sandy Gold, Director of Jewish Education Programs for Gateways and Adjunct Faculty for the Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education, Sherry Grossman, Gateways Director of Coaching and Consultation | Rooms 106-107, Lower Level

Please see description in Session I.

**Please note that participants are required to attend both sessions of this workshop. This double session is for early childhood educators.*

MONDAY, NOVEMBER 11, 2019

1:45 PM TO 3:00 PM BREAKOUT SESSION 3

Judaism's 10 Best Ideas: An Open Conversation

Rabbi Dr. Art Green, Founding Dean and Rector of the Rabbinic School, and Irving Brudnick Professor of Jewish Philosophy and Religion at Hebrew College | Berenson Hall, Lower Level

Author Rabbi Art Green will facilitate an open discussion with educators who have read his book, *Judaism's 10 Best Ideas*, and are familiar with the concepts.

Introduction to Early Childhood Mental Health: Core Principles Make Healthy Relationships

Gilad Amshalom, Speech Language Pathologist and Infant Mental Health Specialist at Boston Medical Center; Fellow in the Infant-Parent Postgraduate Fellowship at UMass, Boston; Infant Mental Health Counselor in the Early Intervention (EI) Program, Riverside Community Care, Somerville | Rooms 106-107, Lower Level

How can we as caregivers and educators nurture and strengthen our interactions with children and help them to flourish? Healthy relationships are a core component of a child's well-being. In this workshop, Mr. Amshalom will present three hands-on mental health principles that can be adapted in a variety of settings with children aged 0-6. Together with the participants, ideas and thoughts will be raised on how to implement those principles in different therapeutic-educational levels: promotion, prevention, and early intervention.

This session is for early childhood educators working with children aged 0-6.

SPIRIT: The Elements Needed for Flourishing in the Classroom: Space, Play, Imagination, Relationships, Inner Life, Text

Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire, Chief Academic Officer of Hebrew College and Dean of the Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Studies Program
Rooms 4-5, Tichnor Conference Center

What are the essential elements to cultivate and foster flourishing in the classroom? Using a Torah Godly Play method, we will explore and reflect on the essential elements.

Torah Godly Play is an accredited Torah-telling practice used in religious education throughout the world designed to enhance the spiritual lives of children. Its application to Jewish education has been pioneered by the Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education at Hebrew College and a community of practice led by Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire.

Igniting the Spark of Amazement Through Nature

Johanna Perlin, Partner, Second Nature Design, and Judaic Curriculum Specialist at the Trust Center for Early Education at Temple Ohabei Shalom (Brookline, MA), Kat Horion, Associate, Second Nature Design and Lead Teacher, Trust Center for Early Education at Temple Ohabei Shalom (Brookline, MA) | Rooms 102-103, Lower Level

"Our goal should be to live life in radical amazement.... get up in the morning and look at the world in a way that takes nothing for granted. Everything is phenomenal; everything is incredible; never treat life casually. To be spiritual is to be amazed." - Abraham Joshua Heschel

Many of the Jewish holidays, *mitzvot*, and aspects of the Torah are connected to seasons and to the outdoors. Connecting children with nature through outdoor play can expand what Abraham Joshua Heschel refers to as "radical amazement" of their Jewish early childhood experiences, forming lasting childhood memories. In small and large groups, we will explore how to foster "radical amazement" and also explore how best to utilize outdoor spaces to further enhance the children's natural play, helping them develop connections with peers, with teachers and with the natural world.

This session is for early childhood educators.

From Page to Stage: Bringing Jewish Stories to Life

Felicia Sloin, Music Teacher, Gan Keshet Preschool and Lander Grinspoon Academy; Cantorial Soloist of Congregation B'nai Israel (Northampton, MA) and PJ Library Page to Stage Performer, Kate Holdsworth-Clarke, Director of Gan Keshet Preschool and PJ Library Page to Stage Performer (Northampton, MA) | Rooms 1-2, Tichnor Conference Center

Have you ever wanted to use puppets in your classroom but just did not know how? This workshop will provide a "hands-on" introduction to puppet manipulation, articulation, character development, and adapting stories from page to stage. Whether the goal is to perform for a large crowd or to enhance storytelling in the classroom, this session will help you develop the confidence to use puppetry, songs, and stories as vehicles to drive your Judaic curriculum.

This session is open to educators working with Pre-K to 3rd grade.

Connection, Knowledge, Stance: Goals and Frameworks for Israel Education

Dr. Jonathan Golden, Israel Curriculum Coordinator at Gann Academy | Room M120, Lower Level

What are the best ways to engage students in Israel education? Learn about the “myIsrael” approach developed by Gann Academy’s Israel Education Team, that can help students flourish as Jewish citizens by grounding them in their connections to Israelis, Israel, and knowledge about both, to arrive at their own stance of engagement that is meaningful and authentic to them. The session will include a presentation of the evolution of the goals and their application in practice at Gann Academy. The session will also include an opportunity for participants to explore the “myIsrael” framework in terms of their current and future programming.

This session is especially targeted for educators working with 8th to 12th grade, but is open to all other educators as well.

Educating for Jewish Spiritual Life*

Sam Feinsmith, Director of Educating for a Jewish Spiritual Life and Clergy Leadership Program, Institute for Jewish Spirituality

*This session is open ONLY to the participants in the IJS cohort. | Elovitz Board Room, Upper Level

Hebrew College and the Institute for Jewish Spirituality (IJS) are partnering this year to pilot a cohort-based program for Congregational Schools who are interested in bringing mindfulness to the students in their communities. The program encourages students to become spiritual seekers and makers of meaningful lives. It invites a deeper connection to and joy in Judaism as a pathway for engaged living and lifelong growth. Participating teachers and education directors develop their own mindfulness and meditation practice through this program in order to bring those gifts to their students.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019

9:30 AM TO 10:45 AM BREAKOUT SESSION 4

What’s Jewish About Pomegranates?

Andrea Shapiro, Dor Chadash (Young Family) Coordinator, Temple Emanuel | Rooms 4-5, Tichnor Conference Center

As an educator in a Jewish school, it can be a challenge to find the balance between Jewish and secular curriculum ideas. But, does it have to be? Is there a way to explore secular ideas through a Jewish lens? In this workshop, we will look at a few different topics and come up with ways to explore them through a Jewish lens.

This session is for early childhood educators.

Nurturing the Child by Partnering with Parents and Caregivers

Erica Streit-Kaplan, Associate Director of Parenting Through a Jewish Lens, Hebrew College, Faye Tonkonogy, Director, The Judy Gordon Early Learning Center at Temple Israel (Natick) | Rooms 102-103, Lower Level

Building positive relationships with parents and caregivers is one of the keys to children and families flourishing and connecting to the Jewish community and Jewish people.

What are some of the benefits (and challenges?) of building relationships with parents and caregivers? Why and how can teachers partner with parents and caregivers... and how will that help children flourish? Get the inside scoop about today’s parents and caregivers– their experiences Jewish and otherwise, and what they could use from preschools. Hear examples about how preschools have successfully partnered with parents and caregivers, and learn successful strategies that you can implement in your community immediately.

This session is appropriate for all educators and directors working with Infants to Kindergarten.

Multi-Culturalism as a Way to Transform Jewish Early Childhood and Day Schools

Dr. Roberta Louis Goodman, Education Director, North Shore Congregation Israel (Illinois), Rabbi Stephanie Wolfe, MJED, MJS ’19, Jewish Wisdom Educator, The Lippman School (Ohio) | Rooms 106-107, Lower Level

How might embracing a multi-cultural educational approach strengthen Jewish early childhood and day schools? How might this deepen the exploration of Jewish content and life for Jewish students? Is multi-culturalism more than a strategy to increase enrollment? Join the conversation about the benefits and challenges of embracing multi-culturalism as a way of deepening the exploration of Jewish content and life. The presenters will share findings from their work with Jewish day and early childhood schools examining what is involved in a multi-cultural approach.

This session is for educators in Jewish early childhood and day school settings.

Introduction to Project Based Learning (PBL)

Dr. Ronit Ziv-Kreger, Director of Education and Leadership Development
Executive Dining Room, Lower Level

In this introductory workshop, participants will learn the fundamentals of Project Based Learning (PBL). PBL engages young people in authentic learning experiences, where real work in their communities becomes the gateway to Torah and Jewish life. Students access the treasure trove of Jewish wisdom and guide others to those treasures and to repairing our world. Through working on an authentic solution to an identified problem in the school or community, students are provided with opportunities to experience in real time, real life skills and attitudes that are key to their growth and thriving as community members. We will see examples of how students blossom and develop authentic materials and outputs in their Jewish education settings that become mechanisms for Jewish life and learning for the entire community.

For educators who are curious to learn how to motivate students to take on quality work that has meaning and impact.

What Kind of Technology in Jewish Education Will Help Students to Thrive?

Wilma Poyser, Jewish Educator, Temple Aliyah (Needham, MA) | Rooms 1-2, Tichnor Conference Center

Teaching in the 21st century has endless opportunities when it comes to technology. Implementing positive uses of technology into your curriculum can enhance and create an engaging learning environment for students who are already fluent in the language of technology. Creating learning opportunities that require students to use their technical creativity in order to construct activities and games related to Hebrew language and Israel education can empower them to thrive as they strengthen their own Jewish identity. In this session you will learn 2-3 technologies that are user friendly for any level of technological ability, that you can either utilize within your curriculum, or that students can use to create their own games online within your classroom.

This session is designed for educators working with 1st to 12th grade. Participants are encouraged to bring an iPad or tablet to the session.

If My School Really Lived Its Values, What Would That Look Like on Instagram? Navigating the Ethics of Social Media So Communities Thrive

Rachel Levitt Klein Dratch, Associate Director of Educational Innovation, Prizmah Center for Jewish Day Schools | Room M120, Lower Level

Social media and technology continually provide challenges to schools from early childhood to high school. Through several case studies, this session will explore real issues that schools confront every day, and how we can navigate the ethics of social media with purpose and intention so communities thrive. Social Media is such a powerful and useful tool-- learning how to harness its benefits with responsibility and thought is the key. By exploring cases in various school communities, where schools struggled with the direct and collateral impact of social media, we will study texts and sources, as participants grapple with the psychological, moral, and administrative dimensions to these challenges. Examples will address issues such as the boundaries between public and private disclosure on social media, the use of cellphones at meetings, gray lines around plagiarism, the school's role involving social media drama among stakeholders, and proper boundaries regarding "friending" and "following." We will consider the impact of social media as a form of public expression on society, and suggest how we can create shared norms of expectations and behaviors that transform social media into a tool that can help us thrive.

The Jewish Relationship to the Land of Israel: Biblical and Ancient Foundations

Dr. David Bernat, Executive Director of Synagogue Council of Massachusetts | Elovitz Board Room, Upper Level

The land of Israel has had a significant and central role in Jewish life since Biblical times. In this session we will examine the Jewish connection to the land of Israel. The session will look at Biblical and other foundational texts, as well as historical and archaeological data, that speak to the origins of the Jewish connection to the Land of Israel. Arguably, this ancient framework set the tone for the Jewish tie to the land for millennia, and laid the cornerstone for the modern Zionist movement and for the establishment of the State of Israel in 1948.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019

11:00 AM TO 12:15 PM BREAKOUT SESSION 5

A Passion for a People

Avraham Infeld, President Emeritus of Hillel International | Berenson Hall, Lower Level

Join Avraham Infeld, a passionate Jewish educator with decades of experience with Jewish people all over the world, for a conversation about the Jewish people, the mission of Jewish education, and the challenges and opportunities facing us today. In 2017 he published a book based on his life's work and we are delighted for the opportunity for our community to hear from him first hand. His book, *A Passion for a People*, takes the reader on a journey through Jewish Peoplehood, the powerful and intangible idea that connects Jews together no matter where they live or where they practice, starting with the core component of Peoplehood and ending with his ideas about the future of the Jewish People.

This session is for all educators.

SING! SING! SING! A Music-Based Approach to Cognitive, Language, Social, Physical and Spiritual Development in the Jewish Early Childhood Classroom

Ellen Allard, Music Performer, Educator, Composer and Coach | Rooms 1-2, Tichnor Conference Center

Join Ellen Allard for an interactive, high-energy participatory music workshop in which she shares her top tips for using songs to help children develop the skills so necessary for healthy growth in all developmental domains. Learn simple songs (Hebrew and English) that reflect and build upon values and concepts integral to the Jewish classroom. By recognizing that music is a remarkably powerful, successful, and effective tool that can be used to shape the learning experience, participants will return to the classroom ready to make music a regular part of each day.

Inspiring, Meaningful and Enduring Documentation in the Early Childhood Classroom

Gina Tzizik, Director, Soule Early Childhood Center (Brookline, MA) | Rooms 106-107, Lower Level

Participants will learn the Reggio and Montessori inspired approach to documentation that collaboratively shows the inner workings of the child and the school. Enduring documentation can take the observer deeper into the learning experience and provide a context for a continuing conversation. In this workshop, participants will explore what documentation actually means in the school setting, and why it is important; what the benefits are to students, teachers and parents; and most importantly, how to make time to document while running a classroom.

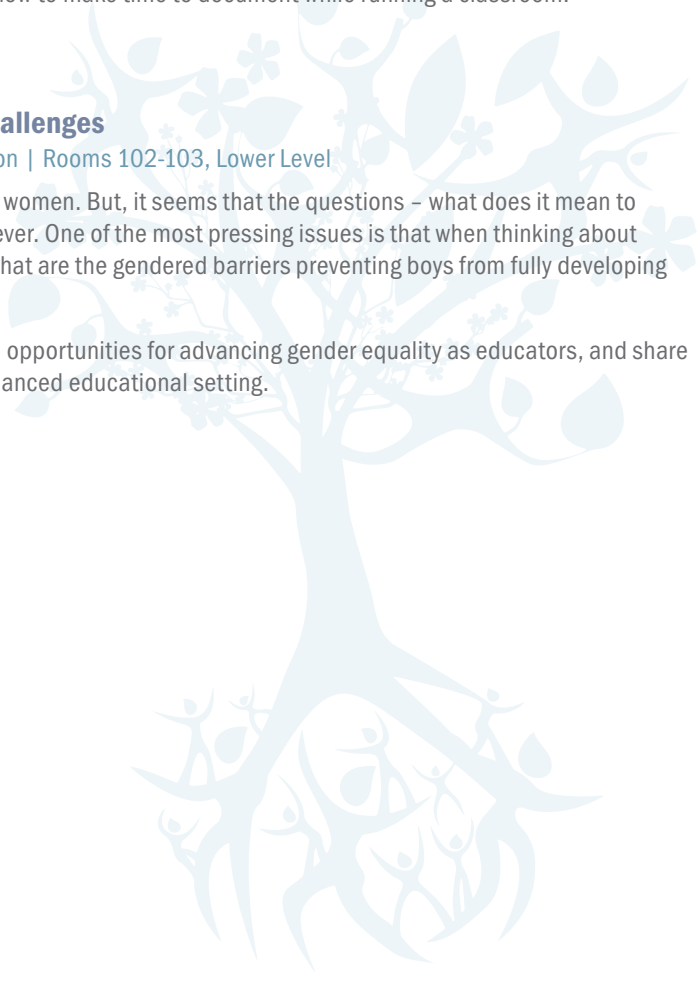
This session is for early childhood educators.

Gender Equality for Boys and Girls - Principles, Goals and Challenges

Yael Boim-Fein, Director, the Israeli Institute for Gender Equality in Education | Rooms 102-103, Lower Level

We are witnessing dramatic changes in terms of equality between man and women. But, it seems that the questions – what does it mean to educate a boy and what does it mean to educate a girl – are as relevant as ever. One of the most pressing issues is that when thinking about gender we usually refer to girl's empowerment. But what about the boys? What are the gendered barriers preventing boys from fully developing their potential?

In this workshop we will discuss principles and goal setting, challenges and opportunities for advancing gender equality as educators, and share ideas and thoughts on how to implement practices that create a gender balanced educational setting.



TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12, 2019

1:45 PM TO 3:00 PM BREAKOUT SESSION 6

The Jewish People and Jewish Education: A Conversation with Jewish Leaders

Rabbi Dr. Art Green, Founding Dean and Rector of the Rabbinic School, and Irving Brudnick Professor of Jewish Philosophy and Religion at Hebrew College, Avraham Infeld, President Emeritus of Hillel International, Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, President of Hebrew College | Berenson Hall, Lower Level

Take advantage of a special opportunity to join a conversation with two Jewish educators and leaders who will share decades of wisdom, experience, love and passion for the Jewish people and Jewish tradition. Hebrew College President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld will facilitate the conversation.

Exploring Jewish Identity Through the Study of Modern Jewish Short Stories

Lisa Micley, Online Judaic Studies Consortium – Program Director, Annette Ehrlich Lakein, Online Judaic Studies Consortium Course Developer | Executive Dining Room, Lower Level

Join us to explore how the study of modern Jewish short stories can lead to significant reflection for students on Jewish identity. Participants will explore examples of how to approach modern short stories to determine what makes a story a “Jewish” story, and uncover the expressed themes and second-layer meanings expressed in Jewish short stories. Participants will also explore how reading about the Jewish experience in a short story can help the reader develop and explore his or her own views about “Jewish” themes. View story selections from a course in Modern Jewish Short Stories developed by The Online Judaic Studies Consortium, as well as pedagogic tools used to guide and inspire students in their learning.

This session is for educators working with 8th-12th graders, adults, family educators, and directors/principals.

Game-Based Learning in the Jewish Classroom

Heidi Lovitz, Director of Educational Programming, ShalomLearning | Rooms 102-103, Lower Level

Experience ShalomLearning Virtual Escape Room: A Jewish adventure, built to expose students to a variety of genres in Jewish music. The virtual escape room encourages curiosity and discovery as students learn about synagogue music, cantillation, modern and traditional Israeli music and more. Challenge activities give students an opportunity to create while they play and provide teachers with a unique, interactive form of assessment.

Game-based learning and Gamification help students flourish, instills motivation for students to learn more about a particular topic, encourages critical thinking, problem-solving skills and much more. The goal is to maximize enjoyment and engagement by capturing the interest of learners and inspiring them to continue learning. Participants will have hands-on opportunities to play and experience the transformative power of games in the classroom as we process the educational value.

All participants in this session will receive a coupon for 1 team to play ShalomLearning's Escape Room for free in their own classrooms!

This session is appropriate for educators working with 4th to 12th grade.

Blossoming into Jewish Adulthood: Preparing Students of All Abilities for B'nei-Mitzvah

Rebecca Redner, Educational Specialist, Gateways Access to Jewish Education, Susan Morrel, Field Experience Supervisor, Hebrew College Rooms 4-5, Tichnor Conference Center

By ensuring that every child has positive *B'nei-Mitzvah* experiences, we not only help them blossom into active Jewish adults but we can also help their synagogues flourish into more welcoming and inclusive synagogue communities. From the initial team meeting to the final rehearsal, this session will walk you through the process of planning accessible and meaningful *B'nei-Mitzvah* that are customized to fit each student's strengths and needs. In addition to picking up strategies for providing students with effective behavioral and academic support, participants will learn about collaborating with families and synagogues, creating child-centered goals, adapting services, and more.

Project Based Learning (PBL) Boot Camp (Extended Session until 3:45)

Dr. Ronit Ziv-Kreger, Director of Education and Leadership Development

Rooms 1-2, Tichnor Conference Center

Come learn and practice how to successfully implement PBL in your setting.

Project Based Learning (PBL) engages young people in authentic learning experiences, where real work in their communities becomes the gateway to Torah and Jewish life. Students access the treasure trove of Jewish wisdom and guide others to those treasures and to repairing our world. Through working on an authentic solution to an identified problem in the school or community, students are provided with opportunities to experience in real time, real life skills and attitudes that are key to their growth and thriving as community members.

Since 2013, Hebrew College has been providing Professional Development and support to over 20 synagogue schools in PBL. In this 2 hour boot camp we will introduce you to the core principles of PBL, provide you a taste of how to identify authentic needs that your students and communities have and how a PBL project can be implementing by students in your community within the confines of the part time school setting.

Participants will learn the core principles of PBL and practice with a number of the procedures necessary to successfully implement PBL in school. We'll also get a taste of some successful PBL projects that have been realized in congregations in the Boston community.

This double session is for teams from schools (minimally the education director - or someone with administrative responsibilities and one teacher who will be the primary facilitator of the PBL in school). Come prepared to be thinking about a specific group of students who will be ready to experiment with PBL over the course of this school year.

Fostering Confidence and Independence Through Reggio-Inspired Integrated Arts

Angelica Rona, Atelierista/Art Teacher, Soule Early Childhood Center (Brookline, MA) | Rooms 106-107, Lower Level

In the schools of Reggio Emilia, Italy, educators understand that the arts allow children to feel empowered to be independent thinkers and confident with their creativity. Reggio educators refer to the “hundred languages of children;” children possess a hundred ways of thinking, a hundred ways of expressing themselves, a hundred ways of understanding and a hundred ways of interacting with their environment and with others. The “hundred languages of children” is a metaphor that gives value to the extraordinary potentials of children. Reggio-inspired integrated arts that focus the educators’ attention on the cognitive process of creation rather than on the end product, thereby giving a visible voice to each child’s thinking and understanding.

This session is for early childhood educators.

How Can We Cultivate Acts of Social Competence in the Classroom?

Vivian Terkel-Gat, Education and Workforce Development Manager,
Head Start Community Teamwork | Elovitz Board Room, Upper Level

Empathy is the ability to understand and respect another person’s perspective. The ability to empathize is an important part of social competence and emotional development, as it is the foundation for human interaction and affects an individual’s behavior toward others and the quality of social relationships. Teaching children about empathy and its importance even at this young age is a valuable skill for generating prosocial adults. How can we help develop prosocial skills in the classroom?

In this session we will discuss the importance of strengthening acts of kindness and empathy in early childhood. We will explore ways in which teachers can increase empathy and thoughtfulness in the classroom, and will examine how these concepts can be incorporated into the daily routine.

This session is for early childhood educators.



Summer Vacation

PRESENTER BIOS

ELLEN ALLARD

Ellen, a multi award-winning Performer, Music Educator, Composer, and Coach educator is one of the most influential musicians on today's Jewish music scene. Traveling throughout the US and abroad, Ellen has been performing and teaching music to young children, adults and families for over 40 years. Her repertoire of over 300 songs is featured across 14 recordings and 7 songbooks; her music has been published by fellow singer-songwriters on 31 recordings and 11 books. Ellen's songs are sung in schools, synagogues and summer camps worldwide, and are part of the curriculum for Hebrew Union College, Hebrew College, Jewish Theological Seminary and Aleph. In addition to presenting workshops and keynotes on the importance of music in the lives of young children, Ellen is a regular faculty member and presenter at Hava Nashira, Song Leader Boot Camp, NewCAJE, and the Hebrew College Jewish Education Conference; she regularly presents workshops, leads family worship, and performs on the Jewish Rock Radio stage at the URJ Biennial. She is a cantorial soloist at Mishkan Tefila, Brookline, MA, is certified as a holistic health coach, teaches Yoga Yeladim children's yoga classes and Rhythm 'n' Ruach children's music classes. Ellen holds a BA in music from Boston University and a master's degree in early childhood education from Arcadia University.

GILAD AMSHALOM

Gilad Amshalom is a Speech Language Pathologist and Infant Mental Health Specialist at Boston Medical Center; Fellow in the Infant-Parent Postgraduate Fellowship at UMass, Boston; and Infant Mental Health Counselor in the Early Intervention Program of Riverside Community Care in Somerville. Gilad holds a BA from Haifa University and a Master's degree from Hebrew University (Jerusalem) in infant and early childhood mental health. Gilad joined the Infant-Parent Mental Health Postgraduate Fellowship/Certificate Program at University of Massachusetts Boston in March 2019. For the past seven years, Gilad has worked closely with infants and their families, as well as with educational staff and governmental programs.

Recently, Gilad contributed to the Israeli Health Ministry's plan for early childhood education renewal and policy revision by helping to construct a three-year blueprint of an ideal early childhood in Israel. The plan addressed the issue from four perspectives: theoretical, economic, practical and ethical. Central to his plan was an emphasis on the children's relationship with his surroundings.

Gilad has volunteered at the SPARK Center (Supporting Parents and Resilient Kids) at the Boston Medical Center and works as a Mental Health Clinician in the Early Intervention Program in the Riverside Community Care of Somerville, MA.

RABBI SHARON COHEN ANISFELD

Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld became President of Hebrew College in July 2018, after being appointed President-Elect in fall 2017 and serving as Acting President from January-June 2018. Rabbi Anisfeld first came to Hebrew College in 2003 and went on to serve as Dean of the Rabbinical School for eleven years, from 2006-2017. Rabbi Anisfeld graduated from the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in 1990, and subsequently spent 15 years working in pluralistic settings as a Hillel rabbi at Tufts, Yale and Harvard universities. She has been a regular summer faculty member for the Bronfman Youth Fellowships in Israel since 1993 and is co-editor of two volumes of women's writings on Passover, *The Women's Seder Sourcebook: Rituals and Readings for Use at the Passover Seder* (Jewish Lights Publishing, 2002) and *The Women's Passover Companion: Women's Reflections on the Festival of Freedom* (Jewish Lights Publishing, 2002). From 2011 to 2013, she was named to Newsweek's list of Top 50 Influential Rabbis in America. In 2015, Rabbi Anisfeld was named one of the 50 most influential Jews in the world by The Jerusalem Post. She writes and teaches widely, weaving together Torah, rabbinic commentary, and contemporary poetry and literature in her wise and compassionate approach to the complexities of the human experience and the search for healing and hope in our beautiful but fractured world.

LUCY BANERJI

Lucy Banerji, Director of Temple Shalom Nursery School (Newton, MA), studied Psychology and Sociology of Childhood at Saratov State University, Russia (equivalent to a Ph.D. in Sociology of Childhood.) She is passionate about the topics of children's rights, inclusion and cultural construction of quality concepts in early childhood education. Lucy's professional experience includes work in preschool settings, academic research, and teachers' training. In her early career, Lucy taught Psychology and Social Pedagogy in Saratov Pedagogical College and led professional development courses for early childhood educators. After immigrating to the United States, Lucy worked at Tufts Educational Daycare Center, a laboratory school at Tufts University, as a mentor teacher.

RABBI JETHRO BERKMAN

Rabbi Berkman, Dean of Jewish Education, Gann Academy (Waltham, MA), is a graduate of the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (RRC), where he was a Wexner fellow. Rabbi Berkman has since joined the Reform movement's rabbinical association. He studied at the Yakar Center for Tradition and Creativity, the Harvard Divinity School, the Hebrew University, the Pardes Institute, the Conservative Yeshiva and Machon Schechter.

Prior to his studies at RRC, he worked for several years both in Israel and America for Seeds of Peace, an organization that helps teenagers from regions of conflict learn peacemaking skills.

In his role as Dean of Jewish Education at Gann Academy, he has become increasingly interested in thinking about how Jewish wisdom and practices support human thriving and how Jewish living and learning at Gann help our students to thrive as human beings.

DAVID BERNAT, PHD

Dr. Bernat is Executive Director of Synagogue Council of Massachusetts; Lecturer in Judaic Studies at UMass Amherst; and Me'ah instructor at Hebrew College. He holds a Bachelor's degree from the Jewish Theological Seminary and a Ph.D. in Biblical Interpretation from Brandeis University. Dr. Bernat is the author of *Sign of the Covenant: Circumcision in the Priestly Traditions*, co-editor of *Religion and Violence: The Biblical Heritage* (with Jonathan Klawans, Boston University professor and previous Me'ah faculty member.) He has been with the Me'ah program since 1997, and planned and led Me'ah's summer Israel Study tour. His research focuses on ritual and violence in Jewish texts and traditions.

Yael BOIM-FEIN

Yael Boim-Fein, the Founding Director of the Israeli Institute for Gender Equality in Education, is an educational entrepreneur, and a specialist in the field of gender and education. Yael founded and directed the education department at Beit Avi Chai, and has an academic background in Media and Culture studies, Gender studies and Pluralistic Education. Yael is an executive member of the international Gender and Education Association (GEA), and a graduate of the Mandel School for Educational Leadership and the American State Department's leadership program.

AMY BOLOTIN

Amy Bolotin is the Director of the Jewish Community Centers of Greater Boston (JCC) Early Learning Center, Brookline/Brighton. A graduate of Bank Street College of Education's Infant and Parent Development program, Amy has been working with very young children and their families for more than twenty-five years. In addition to her work at the JCC Greater Boston, she works with JCCA faculty at the Sheva Center to support JCC directors around the country create and sustain quality Jewish early childhood environments. Amy is involved with the Paradigm Project, a national organization that supports Jewish early-childhood educators, was a member of the third cohort of the Jewish Early Childhood Leadership Institute and facilitates a local community of practice for Jewish early childhood educators working with infants and toddlers.

RACHEL LEVITT KLEIN DRATCH

Rachel is Associate Director of Educational Innovation, of the Prizmah Center for Jewish Day Schools. Rachel has a Master's in Jewish Education from Yeshiva University, is a Mandel Jerusalem Fellow, participated in the Mandel Teacher Education Program, has an ELI talk, and has served as a scholar-in-residence in many communities. Rachel has served as a Tanach and Prayer teacher, Director of Professional Development, Teacher Mentor, Dean of students, Vice Principal, Student Life Coordinator, Israel guidance advisor and other meaningful roles at many amazing day schools including: Frisch, Ramaz, Maimonides, Fuchs Mizrahi, Berman Academy and Beth Tfiloh. Rachel has also been Director of SLED educational consulting, and spends her summers at Camp Moshava IO running drama and special programming.

TALIA ELLIOTT

Talia joined the Temple Shalom Nursery School six years ago and is currently the Judaic and Nature Curriculum Coordinator. Most importantly, Talia is passionate about working with children outdoors, and developing a gardening program through a Jewish lens. Talia's first language was Hebrew and she is alumnus of Solomon Schechter and the Prozdor program of Hebrew College. Having worked with children for over twenty years, including at the JCC in Brighton and at Congregation Mishkan Tefilla, Talia is also toddler and preschool teacher certified.

LINNA ETTINGER, MJED '12

Linna is Assistant Director of the Early Childhood Institute of Hebrew College, and also serves as supervisor of Field Experience I, Coordinator for the Annual Jewish Education Conference, and Facilitator and Coordinator of the Israel Education Community of Practice. She received her Master's in Jewish Education from Hebrew College and a Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Her informal Jewish education includes completion of the two-year Me'ah program of Combined Jewish Philanthropies and Hebrew College, completion of the two-year Me'ah Graduate Institute Certificate of Studies in Jewish Thought and Spirituality, and participation in the Community Leadership Program of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem since 2013. As co-chair of Adult Education at Temple Emunah for over a decade. She has been an advocate of the Shalom Hartman Institute video lecture series including iEngage, a series designed to equip rabbis with the sources and strategy needed to comprehensively teach about Israel in all of its complexity.

RABBI SAM FEINSMITH

Rabbi FeinSmith directs the Educating for a Jewish Spiritual Life and Clergy Leadership Programs at Institute for Jewish Spirituality (IJS), and writes the weekly Hasidic Text Study track. He has been immersed in the world of Jewish contemplative living, learning, and teaching for over fifteen years, conducting Jewish meditation workshops and retreats for young children, teens, and Jewish educators and community leaders. He holds rabbinic ordination from Yeshivat Chovevei Torah and an MA in Talmud from Jewish Theological Seminar (JTS). Sam lives outside of Chicago with his wife and daughter, where he delights in the daily miracles of early childhood.

SANDY GOLD

Prior to her current position as Director of Jewish Education, Gateways Access to Jewish Education, Sandy was Director of the Temple Shir Tikva Early Learning Center in Wayland and was a full-time instructor in the education department of Framingham State University, where she taught methods classes in both the undergraduate and post baccalaureate programs and supervised student teachers in their practicum placements. Sandy currently teaches on-line classes for professional development at Framingham State and for the Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education at Hebrew College. Dually certified in both general and special education, Sandy has over twenty-five years of teaching experience as both a classroom teacher and an inclusion specialist and provides consulting services to schools and parents.

JONATHAN GOLDEN, PHD, MJED '97

Dr. Golden is Israel Curriculum Coordinator and American History Teacher, Gann Academy (Waltham, MA). During Dr. Golden's career at Gann, he chaired the History Department, served as Assistant Head of School and Director of Academic Operations, and mentored numerous teachers and department chairs. A graduate of Princeton University, he received his MJE from Hebrew College and Ph.D. from Brandeis University. At Brandeis, he studied American Jewish history under the tutelage of Professor Jonathan Sarna. In 2007, Dr. Golden was the recipient of Hebrew College's Sydney Hillson Memorial Award for Distinguished Leadership in and Commitment to Jewish Education. In 2014, he received the American Jewish Committee (AJC) Boston Young Leadership Award. In 2018, he was given CJP's Chai in the Hub award honoring the contributions of young professionals and lay leaders in the greater Boston Jewish community. He is a member of the AJC New England Regional Board and he serves on the Steering Committee of AJC's Contemporary Jewish Life Commission and the Jewish Religious Equality Coalition (JREC). He also serves on the Board of Trustees for Camp Yavneh.

DR. ROBERTA LOUIS GOODMAN

Dr. Goodman is the Education Director at North Shore Congregation Israel (Illinois). She received her Master's degree in Jewish Education from HUC-JIR and her doctorate from Teachers College/Columbia University. A veteran educator, she has worked in a wide range of settings including as an evaluation consultant of Jewish early childhood and day schools.

RABBI DR. ARTHUR GREEN

Rabbi Dr. Green is Founding Dean and Rector of the Rabbinic School, and Irving Brudnick Professor of Jewish Philosophy and Religion at Hebrew College. Dr. Green is Professor Emeritus at Brandeis University, where he occupied the distinguished Philip W. Lown Professorship of Jewish Thought. He is both a historian of Jewish religion and a theologian; his work seeks to form a bridge between these two distinct fields of endeavor.

Educated at Brandeis University and the Jewish Theological Seminary of America, where he received rabbinic ordination, Dr. Green studied with such important teachers as Alexander Altmann, Nahum N. Glatzer, and Abraham Joshua Heschel, of blessed memory. He has taught Jewish mysticism, Hasidism, and theology to several generations of students at the University of Pennsylvania, the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College (where he served as both Dean and President), Brandeis, and now at Hebrew College. He has taught and lectured widely throughout the Jewish community of North America as well as in Israel, where he visits frequently. He was the founder of Havurat Shalom in Somerville, Massachusetts in 1968 and remains a leading independent figure in the Jewish Renewal movement.

MARION GRIBETZ

Marion Gribetz is Director of Educational Initiatives at Hebrew College. A member of the Hebrew College faculty since 1995, Marion is director of the Pardes Educators Program in the Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education of Hebrew College. Gribetz has taught courses on a variety of topics in contemporary Jewish education and the place of art in Jewish education. She holds a Bachelor's degree from Barnard College and a Master's degree from Tufts University, was a Jerusalem Fellow and studied Jewish education and Jewish art at Hebrew University.

SHERRY GROSSMAN

Sherry joined Gateways in 2009 and is a Gateways Senior Coach. She works with synagogue preschools and religious schools throughout the community and coordinates the Madrichim Train the Trainer Program for youth who volunteer their time in synagogues to work with children who have special learning needs. As a senior educator, consultant, coach and program manager, Sherry's career spans 35 years in Jewish educational settings. Sherry has a bachelor's degree in Psychology from Simmons College, a Master's degree in Education in Early Education and Special Needs from Tufts University's Eliot-Pearson School of Child Study, and a Master's in Judaic Studies from Boston's Hebrew College. She has Massachusetts certification in Early Education and Care, Director Level II, and State Teachers' certification.

KATE HOLDSWORTH-CLARKE

Kate is the Director of Gan Keshet Preschool, a Reggio-inspired Jewish community preschool in Northampton, MA; and a PJ Library Page to Stage Performer. Kate is passionate about partnering with children, families, and teachers to create a curriculum rich with opportunities for creative expression, exploration of the natural world, and celebrating the rhythms of the Jewish calendar. With an educational background in early intervention, curriculum development, the Reggio Emilia philosophy, art/theater, Kate is excited to continue her collaboration with her dear friend Felicia Sloin, as part of PJ Library Page to Stage. The Page to Stage project has allowed Kate with the opportunity to meld her experience as an educator and as a performer; bringing stories to life and inspiring children and fellow teachers to explore and expand their creativity and their connection to Jewish tradition.

KAT HORION

Kat is a Lead Teacher at Trust Center for Early Education at Temple Ohabei Shalom, in Brookline, MA and Associate of Second Nature Design. Katrine holds a Bachelor's Degree of Art from UMass Boston, and a Master's Degree in Early Education from Lesley University, and is a trained behavior therapist. Kat has over 15 years of teaching experience with children ages birth through grade 5, in both Jewish and secular settings.

Kat is an advocate for Nature Based Education for children of all ages, she has worked in the field of Jewish early childhood, and secular early elementary, school age vacation and after school care for nearly twenty years. She is an independent consultant.

She has had the pleasure of presenting nationally on the topic of nature and risky play opportunities. She has supported change and growth in the field of early childhood by participating in the EEC grant funded public conferences through EarlyEdCon and The Southeast Education Professionals Partnership of Massachusetts (SEEPP) grant over the past four years.

LEAH HOUGH

Leah is entering her third year at the Temple Shalom Nursery School. Leah is both Lead Toddler and Lead Preschool Teacher. She has the Child Development Associate (CDA) credential which she completed through Rasmussen College. Leah has 9 years of professional experience in early childhood education working at different preschools including Newton Childcare Academy and KinderCare in Needham.

AVRAHAM INFELD

Avraham is the President Emeritus of Hillel International– the Foundation for Jewish Campus life. He also serves as a consultant on Tikkun Olam to the Reut Institute, and is a member of the Faculty of the Mandel Institute. In May 2012, Avraham was elected Chairman of the Board of the Hillels of Israel. In 1970, Avraham founded Melitz, a non-profit educational service institution that fosters Jewish identity. He also served as chairman of Arevim; founding chairman of the San Francisco Federation's Amuta in Israel; and chairman of the Board of Israel Experience, Ltd.

Avraham was also Director General of both Geshar Educational Affiliates, the Shalom Hartman Institute and served a three-year tour of duty in London as Director of the Jewish Agency's Youth Department for English speaking Europe. Avraham was Birthright's first International Director, and led the Planning Process which created one of the most successful and formative educational programs in the Jewish world. He is a graduate of the Hebrew University in Bible and Jewish History, and of Tel Aviv University's Law School. In 2005, he was awarded the Hebrew University of Jerusalem's prestigious Samuel Rothberg Prize for Jewish Education. He was awarded honorary doctorates by Muhlenberg College and from Hebrew Union College for his contribution to the field of education.

SARAH KERSTEIN

Sarah is a Special Education Teacher in the Boston Public Schools; Inclusion Coordinator at the URJ 6 in Points Sci-Tech Academy; and Consultant and Coach, for Gateways: Access to Jewish Education Massachusetts. Sarah has worked in inclusive settings for the past decade. She has been the Inclusion Coordinator at URJ 6 Points Sci-Tech Academy, a full inclusion Jewish science and technology sleep away camp, since its founding 6 years ago. In addition, Sarah has worked in various capacities in synagogue schools, training teens and teachers to collaboratively support all students in their classrooms. In her work with Gateways, Sarah works with Education Directors, Teachers, and other community members to help them develop the skills necessary to support the needs of all students. Sarah received her undergraduate degree in psychology from Tufts University and her graduate degree in special education from Lesley University. Annette Ehrlich Lakein

ANNETTE EHRLICH LAKEIN

Annette Ehrlich Lakein is a veteran educator who has taught English and developed curriculum for grades six through twelve at the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School in Rockville, Maryland for almost her entire career. She has also been a teacher and supervisor in congregational Hebrew Schools. She has a B.A. in English, an MEd. in Instructional Design, and an Ed.S in Curriculum and Instruction in Jewish Education. Ms. Lakein has published articles in the *English Journal* and has written a chapter for an ASCD publication on mentoring new teachers. At the Charles E. Smith Jewish Day School, she founded and advised the student run middle school literary-arts magazine, *Collage*, that has won top awards from NSPA, CSPA, and NCTE. Throughout her career, her passion has been for extending the classroom experience using technology and integrating secular and Judaic learning and thought.

HEIDI LOVITZ

Heidi, Director of Educational Programming at ShalomLearning, is an educator, education administrator, and curriculum developer dedicated to innovating Jewish education. Her experience includes Family Educator at Congregation Beth Elohim in Acton, MA for over 15 years, the Director of Jewish Life and Learning at Camp Tevya in Brookline, NH for 15 years, and Director of Education and Programming at Temple Beth Abraham in Nashua, NH. Heidi was one of the founding leaders of the Havayah program connecting teens from Boston, Haifa and Dnepropetrovsk, Ukraine. Heidi holds a BA in communication studies from the University of Massachusetts and has completed coursework towards a Master of Jewish Education at Hebrew College.

WALTER LYONS

Walter, a Mental Health Specialist for Gateways: Access to Jewish Education, has been working with in the fields of mental health and education for over forty years. He worked at McLean Hospital as a Mental Health Worker for five years and then as a child welfare social worker at Roxbury Children's Service before moving to education. Since then he has helped start new programs in Medford and Newton, including the Curtis-Tufts Academy in Medford, the Pilot Program in Newton North H.S. and Central High School, an alternative high school in Newton. He has worked as a special education director at Newton North H.S. and as a special education director in North Andover and at the Neighborhood House Charter school in Dorchester, middle and elementary schools. He also worked for two years as the coordinator for the Newton Public School's Suicide Prevention Program. Walter is a graduate of the University of Hawaii and has M.Ed. in School Adjustment Counseling and in School Administration.

JARED MATAS, MAT, JLDS '14

Dr. Matas is Director of STEAM Innovation at Boston's Jewish Community Day School (JCDS) and Director of J-STEAM for Jewish Interactive. He has almost two decades of experience teaching a wide range of students and content, including kindergarten, middle school history and early elementary engineering. Jared has served as an adjunct professor at a number of universities, teaching courses such as "Early Childhood Education" at Tufts University, "Teaching Tefillah" at Hebrew College, and "Teaching Hebrew with Technology" at Middlebury College. Additionally, Jared has worked as a consultant for a number of synagogues, leading efforts to innovate supplementary schools with project-based learning and STEAM integration.

Jared is the Director of STEM Innovation at the Boston Jewish Community Day School, where he leads school-wide initiatives in the areas of Design Thinking, project based learning, engineering and coding, and the Director of J-STEAM for Jewish Interactive, which gives him the opportunity to bring this work to schools across the country.

Jared has a Masters of Arts in Teaching from Brandeis University and received his doctorate in education from Hebrew College and Northeastern University.

LISA MICLEY

Lisa is the Program Director for the Online Judaic Studies Consortium (OJSC) at the Virtual High School (VHS, Inc.). She is involved in the design, development and delivery of the unique online Judaic Studies courses offered to students within the consortium. She works closely with all schools and teachers involved in the OJSC. Lisa has been active in Jewish education for four decades. She was on the faculty of the Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Boston and mentored teachers at the Prozdor of Hebrew College. As Director of Education for BabagaNewz, she was involved in the development of articles, programs and lessons on Jewish values and worked with congregational schools on ways to incorporate the magazine into the curriculum. She earned undergraduate degrees from Columbia University and the Jewish Theological Seminary before coming to Boston to pursue graduate study at the Harvard Graduate School of Education.

KFIR MIZRAHI

Kfir Mizrahi grew up in Jerusalem and currently lives in Framingham, MA. He started Israeli Folk Dancing when he was in second grade. Kfir has studied with the likes of Yehuda Tzadok, Haim Tzemach, Boaz Cohen and Rafi Ziv. He is a member of the Association of Israeli Dance Instructors in Israel. In Israel, Kfir led Israeli Folk Dancing at the Tel Aviv Municipal LGBT Community Center. He has served as the Israeli Folk Dance instructor in the religious schools at Congregation Beth Israel, Worcester, MA, Congregation Or Atid, Wayland, MA and Temple Emunah, Lexington, MA. Kfir has led Israeli Folk Dancing at Clark University Hillel, the MetroWest Jewish Day School, and the JCC of the North Shore.

SUSAN MORREL

Susan is Director of Field Experience at the Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education of Hebrew College. A dynamic Jewish educational leader with over 25 years of congregational education experience, as well as work in Jewish camps and organizations, she is also a Jewish Education Consultant in the Greater Boston area. As a consultant for Gateways: Access to Jewish Education, Susan leads a community of practice for school directors, provides coaching for Jewish educators, and teaches in the *B'nei Mitzvah* program which prepares students with special needs for their bar/bat mitzvah. Susan holds an Executive Master's Degree in Religious Education from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion.

JOHANNA PERLIN, ECE CERT. '00, ECE DIRECTOR CERT. '02

Johanna has been an educator in the field of Jewish early childhood education for over 35 years and is passionate about connecting children with nature. She is currently the Judaic Curriculum Specialist at Temple Ohabei Shalom Trust Center for Early Education. She is a partner in Second Nature Design, which provides staff training and consulting in both secular and Jewish settings to facilitate bringing children outdoors. In addition to presenting nationally, Johanna has done nature webinars for the Jewish Outdoor, Food, Farming & Environmental Educators (JOFEE) Fellows and for The Jewish Education Project (NY). She has also been a guest lecturer at both Mass Bay Community College and Bunker Hill Community Colleges. She is a certified trainer for Nature Explore Outdoor Classrooms.

Johanna holds a Master's degree from Wheelock College in Early Childhood Education, and a certificate from the Early Childhood Institute of Hebrew College.

RABBI DR. NEHEMIA POLEN

Rabbi Dr. Polen, Professor of Jewish Thought at Hebrew College, is a leading expert in Hasidism and Jewish thought. A widely published author, his books include *The Holy Fire: The Teachings of Rabbi Kalonymus Kalman Shapira, the Rebbe of the Warsaw Ghetto* (Jason Aronson Inc., first ed., 1977); *The Rebbe's Daughter* (Jewish Publication Society, 2002), based on Polen's research as a National Endowment for the Humanities fellow and recipient of a National Jewish Book Award; and *Filling Words With Light: Hasidic and Mystical Reflections on Jewish Prayer* (Jewish Lights Publishing, 2004), written with Lawrence Kushner. Polen holds a doctorate from Boston University, where he studied with and served as a teaching fellow for Nobel Laureate Elie Wiesel. Prior to his career in Jewish academia, Polen served for 23 years as a congregational rabbi.

WILMA POYSER, MJED '19

Wilma is a Jewish Educator at Temple Aliyah (Needham, MA). She holds a BS in Business Management from Central Connecticut State University (CCSU) and a Master's in Jewish Education from Hebrew College. She participated in fellowships focusing on technology in Jewish education from CJP as well as the iCenter's Israel education program. As a teacher who has lived in both Israel and America, Wilma uses technology to bring Israel and Hebrew to life within her classroom through various applications of technology.

RACHEL RAZ, MJED '06

Rachel serves as the Director of the Early Childhood Institute of Hebrew College; Chair of the Annual Jewish Education Conference since its inception in 2011; and Director of the Boston-Haifa Early Childhood Educators' Connection, a program sponsored by Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP) and the Haifa Municipality Department of Early Childhood Education. Rachel has designed and led educational seminars in Israel and Boston for educators and professionals.

Rachel is an active member of the Israeli-American Council (IIAC) Boston and serves on the advisory committee of the KESHET program of the National IAC. In addition, she is a board member of UMass Amherst Hillel; a member of Boston's Israel Academic Forum.

She is the author of the children books, *ABC Israel* (2012) and *The Colors of Israel* (2015), and the Executive Producer of the forthcoming educational documentary about Jewish astronaut Dr. Jeff Hoffman. Rachel has a BA from Bar-Ilan University, and MJED from Hebrew College.

REBECCA REDNER, MJED '19

Rebecca is an educational specialist at Gateways: Access to Jewish Education in Boston, where she has taught for over ten years. In addition to teaching Sunday school classes for students with special learning needs, Rebecca developed the current Gateways *B'nei-Mitzvah* curriculum and coordinates the Gateways *B'nei-Mitzvah* program. Rebecca is the author of two books that aim to make Jewish rituals accessible to people of all abilities: *The Gateways Haggadah* (2015), and *The Gateways Shabbat Family Companion* (2016). Rebecca received a BS in special education from Boston University and an MJEd from Hebrew College.

ANGELICA RONA

Angelica is the Atelierista/Art Teacher at Soule Early Childhood center in Brookline, MA. Arts and early childhood education have always been her passion. She studied visual arts in Mexico; drawing and painting are her preferred medium to create art. She also has a dance background with a focus on modern jazz. She received her bachelor's degree in Education in Mexico, then she moved to Boston to pursue her master's degree from Lesley University in Early Childhood Education with an emphasis in integrating the arts into the curriculum. She previously worked at a Reggio Emilia-inspired preschool in Cambridge, MA for ten years where she strengthened her training and interest in practicing the Reggio approach.

LYNNE RUBINGER

This is Lynne's eighth year at Temple Shalom Nursery School, where she is lead teacher. Lynne graduated from Hofstra University with a BA in Speech and Language Development, studying evaluation and therapy. She began her career working in the state schools with adults with severe developmental disabilities. Lynne has worked in several preschools, including the YMCA in Framingham and the JCC in Newton. She is an active participant of the Boston-Haifa ECE Connection and has participated in seminars in Boston and Israel.

RABBI MA'AYAN SANDS, RS '16, CPE '96, Family Education Certificate '95, MAJS '93

Rabbi Ma'ayan Sands is the rabbi at Temple B'nai Shalom in Braintree, the visiting rabbi at Congregation Mishkan Tefillah in Brookline, and the rabbi at Providence House, an assisted living facility in Allston. Rabbi Ma'ayan received ordination from Hebrew College in 2016; previously, she received a Master's degree in Judaic Studies and certificates in Jewish family education and Clinical Pastoral Education (CPE) also from Hebrew College. Her "soul's work" is Jewish family education. Prior to entering rabbinical school, Ma'ayan was the Family Educator at Temple Israel in Natick, and the Director of Boston-Area Jewish Education Program (BJEP), an independent Hebrew School located on the campus of Brandeis University. During her ten-year tenure at BJEP she developed a nationally recognized K-7 Jewish Studies and Jewish family education curriculum. In both of Ma'ayan's children's books, *Nobody Ever Told Them They are Different* and *Does God Have Ears that Really Work?* Her desire is to support children and their adult readers to discuss challenging questions from the perspective of Jewish values.

ANDREA SHAPIRO, MJED '19

Andrea is the Dor Chadash (Young Family) Coordinator of Temple Emanuel (Newton, MA).

In 2019 she received her Master's degree in Jewish Education with a specialization in Early Childhood Education (MJED-ECE) at Hebrew College. Andrea was an iCenter Fellow working on incorporating the best tools to engage children and families in Israel education. An active member of the Boston-Haifa Early Childhood Educators' Connection, Andrea has participated in seminars in Boston and Israel. Andrea has spent the last 12 years working with young children and families as an early childhood educator. Over the past two years Andrea has developed a passion for early childhood education as it relates to Israel and has written two children books about her trips to Israel.

RABBI DR. MICHAEL SHIRE

Rabbi Shire joined Hebrew College in 2011 as Professor of Jewish Education and Dean of the Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education. In July 2015, he assumed the additional responsibilities of Chief Academic Officer of the college and Dean of the Graduate Programs in Jewish Studies. Shire received his Rabbinic Ordination from Leo Baeck College and his Ph.D. from Hebrew Union College. Rabbi Shire has published widely in the field of religious growth and development as well as the Jewish theology of childhood. He has also published four books of creative liturgy with medieval illuminations in association with the British Museum.

FELICIA SLOIN

Felicia is the Music Teacher at Gan Keshet Preschool and Lander-Grinspoon Academy; Cantorial Soloist of Congregation B'nai Israel (Northampton, MA) and PJ Library Page to Stage Performer.

Felicia has an extensive background in Jewish life, education, and community building. She is an accomplished singer/songwriter and a self-coined children's 'entertainicator' using musical instruments, puppetry, sign language, and song to celebrate Jewish tradition with communities all over the East Coast. Felicia is the music teacher at the Lander-Grinspoon Academy and the cantorial soloist at Congregation B'Nai Israel in Northampton, MA where she helped to pilot Shabbat Shabloom, an outdoor musical Shabbat service for young children and their families. Together with her fellow puppeteers and educators, she writes and performs puppet shows based on popular PJ Library books as part of PJ Library Page to Stage.

MICHAL FOX SMART

Michal is an Associate Principal of Judaic Studies at Bi-Cultural Day School in Stamford, CT and Director of Ayeka North America. A recognized leader in innovation and curriculum design, Michal has received the Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education, the JEIC Education Innovation Award, and was one of the ten designers re-envisioning day school education on the Hakaveret Design team. She is the Editor of *Kaddish: Women's Voices* (Urim, 2013), winner of the 2013 National Jewish Book Award. Earlier, Michal pioneered Jewish outdoor and environmental education in this country. She is a founder of the TEVA Learning Center and co-author of *Spirit in Nature: Teaching Judaism and Ecology on the Trail* (Behrman House, 2000).

A Fulbright scholar in Jewish Thought, Michal received her B.A. from Princeton University in Religion and an M.S. from Cornell. She is also an alumna of the Wexner Graduate Fellowship, the Melton Senior Educators Program at Hebrew University, and Machon Pardes.

ERICA STREIT-KAPLAN

Erica is Associate Director of Parenting Through a Jewish Lens at Hebrew College. A social worker by training, Erica Streit-Kaplan understands that supporting parents is key to nourishing children and strengthening families. In her five years at Hebrew College, she has been inspired to see how ancient Jewish wisdom and compassionate facilitation can support modern families today. She received her MSW and MPH degrees from Boston University.

VIVIAN TERKEL-GAT

Vivian is currently working in Community Teamwork in a Head Start program as an Education and Workforce Development Manager where she is leading strategic planning to support training needs for teachers. Over the previous 15 years, Vivian worked for the Israeli Ministry of Education as an early education counselor. As part of her work, Vivian served as a member of a multidisciplinary Early Education Board of the city of Petach Tikva. She led training workshops in social-emotional programs for kindergarten teachers and provided personal organizational consulting to the city's superintendent of early childhood education. Also, Vivian initiated a City Educational Entrepreneurship program that encouraged teachers and city employees to fulfill their professional dream.

Vivian has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Ben Gurion University and a Master's degree in Educational Counseling for Early Education from Tel Aviv University. In May of 2019, Vivian graduated from the Gender, Policy and Leadership program at University of Massachusetts, Boston. During her studies, Vivian interned with Strategies for Children, where she researched local governance models of different states.

FAYE TONKONOGY

Faye is the Director of Early Education at The Judy Gordon Early Learning Center at Temple Israel (Natick, MA). Faye has a degree in Early Childhood Education from Wheelock College. She has worked in many different settings with young children and families and has a passion to help young children grow and learn. Partnering with parents in the child rearing journey is an interest of Faye's that has developed over the 30 plus years in the early education field. Most recently, Faye was a public school Kindergarten Teacher.

GINA TZIZIK

Gina is a long-time early childhood educator, teacher trainer with over 25 years of experience. She has been the Director of Soule Early Childhood Center in Brookline, MA for the past 10 years. She has lived and worked in Italy, Germany and the United States. Her philosophy of education has been profoundly inspired by the European view of the child and education, the teachings of Maria Montessori and the Reggio Emilia philosophies of education. She holds a Masters in Montessori Education from Endicott College and is currently completing a Masters in Jewish Early Childhood Education at Hebrew College.

RABBI STEPHANIE WOLFE, MJED, MJS '19

Rabbi Wolfe is the Jewish Wisdom Educator at The Lippman School in Akron, OH. She received her ordination from HUC-JIR in 1995 and her dual masters in Jewish education and Jewish studies from Hebrew College this past June.

RONIT ZIV-KREGER, PHD

As Director of Education and Leadership Development, Dr. Ziv-Kreger oversees Momentum's education, leadership development, and evaluation programs. She joined Momentum with over 20 years of experience in those areas.

Dr. Ziv-Kreger previously served as a consultant, helping Jewish institutions navigate systemic changes, adapting and implementing new pedagogies to manifest their educational vision. She is the founding designer and trainer of Hebrew College's congregational project-based learning professional development, and has taught for a range of innovative adult learning initiatives. Ronit is a graduate of the Pardes Jewish Educators Program, and holds a Ph.D. from MIT's Sloan School of Management.



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JEWISH EDUCATION 2019-2020

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Hebrew College provides a wide array of professional development for professionals (educators, leaders and clergy) and lay-leaders who work in the field of Jewish Education. Please contact **Rachel Raz** rraz@hebrewcollege.edu or **Linna Ettinger** lettinger@hebrewcollege.edu for more information.

LEADERSHIP SEMINAR: FROM GOOD TO GREAT

Dec. 2, 2019; Jan. 6, Feb. 10, and Mar. 2, 2020

11:00am to 1:00pm | Hebrew College

Led by Rachel Raz | Fee: \$100 per institution

Designed for directors, aspiring directors, lay leaders, board members and clergy. The Leadership Seminar will help participants develop a vision and strategic plan to move their organization from Good to Great.

BEST PRACTICES IN EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATION

Nov. 21, 2019; Feb. 6, Mar. 4, Apr. 30, 2020

Led by Rachel Raz | Fee: \$120

November 21, 2019: 10:00am to 4:30pm

Western Massachusetts (Hampshire College Early Learning Center, Eric Carl Museum, Yiddish Book Center) hosted by Ronit BenShir

February 6, 2020: 10:00am to 12:00pm

Temple Beth Avodah, Newton hosted by Heidi Baker

March 4, 2020: 12:00pm to 2:30pm

Temple Emanuel, Newton hosted by Andrea Shapiro

March 8, 2020: 10:00am to 12:00 (optional)

Purim Family Celebration at Temple Emanuel organized by Andrea Shapiro

April 30, 2020: 10:30am to 12:30pm

Solomon Schechter Day School - Lower School, Newton, hosted by Ellen Agulnick

ISRAEL EDUCATION COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

Oct. 31, 2019; Jan. 9, Mar. 19, and May 5, 2020

Facilitation and Coordination: Rachel Raz and Linna Ettinger

The Israel Education Community of Practice is comprised of professionals and educators who are working in the field of Israel Education for all ages. Site visits and shared resources provide participants with a holistic view of Israel Education at different ages, to help inform a coordinated approach to Israel Education over the lifespan.

October 31, 2019: 2:00 to 4:00pm

Gann Academy (Waltham)

January 9, 2020 : 11:00 to 12:30pm

The Rashi School (Dedham)

March 19, 2020: 12:00 to 1:30pm

Israeli American Council (IAC) in Newton

May 5, 2020: 10:30 to 12:00pm

Temple Emunah (Lexington)

BOSTON-HAIFA EARLY CHILDHOOD EDUCATORS' CONNECTION – LEARNING & CELEBRATING TOGETHER

Sept. 23, Dec. 3, 2019; Jan. 27, Mar. 30, May 18, 2020

12:00pm to 2:00pm | Hebrew College

Sponsored by CJP Boston-Haifa Connection.

The Boston Haifa Early Childhood Educators Connection strives to build meaningful and long-lasting bridges between educators, students and their families in Haifa and the Greater Boston area.

TORAH GODLY PLAY

December 15, 2019 - 3:00pm to 8:00pm

December 16, 2019 - 9:00am to 3:00pm

Godly Play® is an accredited Torah-telling practice used in religious education throughout the world designed to enhance the spiritual lives of children.

REGGIO, ISRAELI, AND JEWISH EDUCATIONAL PHILOSOPHIES FOR OUR TIME

March 25, 2019 – 3:00pm to 5:00pm

Hebrew College | Instructor: Rachel Raz

In this session, participants will learn about the What and the Why of each philosophy. Aspects of each philosophy that are crucial and relevant for our time will be highlighted. This professional development seminar is open to early childhood educators from Jewish and non-Jewish schools.

ISRAEL IN ECE LAB

January 13, March 16, May 14, 2020

1:00 to 3:00pm | Hebrew College

This group will work together to develop resources that can enrich Israel education in the early childhood classroom, including games, books, and other materials.



המכללה העברית

HEBREW COLLEGE

THANK YOU

To all of our sponsors, volunteers, presenters, and their institutions.

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Combined Jewish Philanthropies (CJP)

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Rabbi Yafa Chase, *Director of Western Massachusetts Programs, Harold Grinspoon Foundation*

Dr. David Farbman, *Senior Director of Education, Gateways Access to Education*

Nora Gorenstein, *Development Officer, Jewish Federation of Western Massachusetts*

Jodi Jarvis, *Director, Families with Young Children, CJP*

Linda White, *Founder and Creator of Imagination Play Project*

Rabbi Elyse Winick, *Director of Adult Learning, CJP Jewish Learning and Engagement Commission*

AND TO OUR OTHER CONFERENCE COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Lucy Banerji, *Director, Temple Shalom Nursery School (Newton, MA)*

Sandy Gold, *Director of Jewish Education, Gateways Access to Jewish Education*

Dr. Jonathan Golden, *Israel Curriculum Coordinator and American History Teacher, Gann Academy (Waltham, MA)*

Sherry Grossman, *Gateways Access to Jewish Education Senior Coach*

Heidi Lovitz, *Director of Educational Programming, ShalomLearning*

Ahava Rosenthal, *Associate Director for Parenting Through a Jewish Lens, Hebrew College*

Andrea Shapiro, *Dor Chadash (Young Family) Coordinator, Temple Emanuel (Newton, MA)*

Erica Streit-Kaplan, *Associate Director of Parenting Through a Jewish Lens, Hebrew College*

Faye Tonkonogy, *Director of Early Education, The Judy Gordon Early Learning Center at Temple Israel (Natick, MA)*

Arnee Winshall, *President and CEO, Hebrew at the Center (HATC)*

ARTWORK BY **Nira Raz**

CATERING BY **Dushez Catering**

CONFERENCE COORDINATOR: **Linna Ettinger**, *Assistant Director, Early Childhood Institute, Hebrew College*

PROGRAM DESIGNER: **Emily Hoadley**, *Marketing Design Manager, Hebrew College*

ADMINISTRATOR: **Debrah Ron**, *Administrative & Enrollment Manager, Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education; Assistant to the Chief Academic Officer*



HEBREW COLLEGE is a Boston-area institution of Jewish learning and leadership that offers graduate programs in rabbinical, cantorial, education, and Jewish studies, and community learning programs for all ages and stages within a pluralistic environment of open inquiry, depth, creativity, and compassion.