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NEWS & VIEWS

February 21, 2019 | 16 Adar I 5779



We're mixing it up! This year, instead of our traditional spring gala, we have decided to bring the

Hebrew College community together for an evening of storytelling and schmoozing over wine, hors d'oeuvres and dessert. Please save **Thursday evening, May 30** for [Hebrew College Live! Stories in Honor of Our Teachers](#) at Temple Beth Elohim in Wellesley, MA.

The evening will feature Hebrew College faculty and alumni storytellers with emcee Mark Oppenheimer, host of Tablet Magazine's popular podcast "[Unorthodox.](#)"

This is a special opportunity to celebrate Hebrew College and to honor your teachers with a gift to the College. (More information about this is coming soon!)

Hebrew College Live! kicks off an exciting week for our community. Please consider joining us for one or several of these events:

- Thursday, May 30 - *Hebrew College Live! Stories in Honor of Our Teachers*
- Shabbat, May 30-June 1 - Spend shabbat at a shul with services led by Hebrew College faculty or alumni. We'll provide a list of locations throughout the Greater Boston area.
- Sunday, June 2 - Commencement & Ordination Ceremonies
- Monday, June 3 - [Ani Kinor: Prayer Leader Summer Institute](#) begins
- Wednesday, June 5 - Me'ah Graduation

Watch for more information soon. Questions? Please email advancement@hebrewcollege.edu.

COMMUNITY LEARNING



Introducing Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens

Building on the success of the [Parenting Through a Jewish Lens](#) (PTJL) program, and by popular demand, Hebrew College, in partnership with CJP, is offering [Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens](#). GTJL is designed for those who care deeply about the next generation and are looking for guidance and inspiration on ways to connect with both adult children and grandchildren. In the 4-session class, taught by Ruth Nemzoff, Ed.D., expert facilitators will bring Jewish sources of wisdom to bear on today's most compelling grandparenting questions.

“What happens when a parent becomes a grandparent? How can they continue to receive guidance and inspiration as they embark on this next life journey? Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens is designed for those who are invested in the success and nurturing of the next generation and are seeking ways to deepen connections with both adult children and grandchildren,” said Ahava Rosenthal, PTJL Director.

The class, which is open to the public, will meet on Tuesdays March 19 & 26 and April 2 & 9 from 7:45 to 9:15 pm at Temple Emanuel, 385 Ward Street in Newton. Tuition is \$65 per person and \$110 per couple. For more information or questions, please contact [Ahava Rosenthal](#) at 617.559.8734.



Me'ah Select Classes Begin Next Week

Only a few spots remain for these three Me'ah Select courses. Grab yours now!

Jewish Mystical Masters, with Rabbi Natan Margalit, meets Mondays from 9:45 am - 12:15pm, beginning Feb. 25 at Hebrew College. Explore medieval Kabbalists and modern mystics and how they approached the deep questions of their hearts.

Crucial Moments in the Israeli Experience through the Lens of Short Stories, with Dr. Jacob Meskin, meets Thursdays from 9:45 am - 12:15pm, beginning Feb. 28 at Hebrew College. Deepen your knowledge of Israeli history through reading short stories.

Matzoh Balls con Salsa: A Cultural History of Jews South of the Border, with Dr. Dalia Wassner, meets Thursdays from 7:00 - 9:30 pm, beginning March 7 at Congregation B'nai Torah in Sudbury. What is the history of Jews in Latin America, and what has the presence of Latin American Jewish communities

meant for the global Jewish Diaspora and for Latin American history?

Register Now

SIGHTS & SOUNDS



Rabbi Or Rose, Director of the [Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership](#), was the Scholar-In-Residence at Congregation Beth Elohim (CBE) in Acton, MA Feb. 8-11, where he taught about the Torah of interreligious communication, cooperation, and engagement. (l-r: Rabbi Rose and CBE's Rabbi Mike Rothbaum)



This morning the Linden family sponsored a **Day of Learning in the Beit Midrash** in honor of Rabbinical student **Eric Feld** for his pastoral work with a family member who has Alzheimer's Disease. Rabbi Allan Lehmann spoke about the connection between this week's Parashat Ki Tisa — caring for the tablets that contain the Ten Commandments but also their broken fragments — and caring for a loved one with dementia. (Pictured l-r: Eric Feld and Adina Linden.) [Learn more about sponsoring a Day of Learning in the Beth Midrash.](#)

EVENTS

2019 Boston Interfaith Leadership Initiative Student Retreat

"Religion at the Dinner Table:
Conversations that Matter"

Sponsored by the [Miller Center for Interreligious
Learning and Leadership of Hebrew College](#)

Feb. 23-24

Walker Center for Ecumenical Exchange

[Learn more](#)

How to Help Those Suffering with Addiction

A Day of Learning for Rabbinical
and Cantorial Students

March 6

Hebrew College

[Learn more](#)

ONLY 4 SPOTS LEFT!

Jewish Genealogy: Discover Your Family History

Sponsored by the [Jewish Genealogical Society of
Greater Boston](#)

Eight Wednesdays, March 6- May 8

7-9:30 pm

Hebrew College

[Register](#)

Community Hevra Kadisha Zayin Adar Commemoration Dinner

Hebrew College President Sharon Cohen Anisfeld
will be the featured guest speaker

March 12 | 6-9 pm

Temple Emanuel, Newton, MA

Guests \$20 | Free for Hevra Kadisha members

[Learn more](#) | [Reservations](#)

Dying Well: Multi-Religious End-of-Life Conversations

*A daylong conference on religion and its role in
end of life care*

Sponsored by the Boston Theological Institute
Lifelong Learning Consortium

Featuring Rabbi Or Rose &

Rabbi Joel Baron, Rab`14

April 2 | 9:30 am-3 pm

Hebrew College

\$10-\$25 | [Register](#)

Torah Godly Play

May 19-20

8 am-3 pm

Hebrew College

[Learn more](#) | [Register](#)

STATE OF
FORMATION

*State of Formation is a joint venture of the [Miller Center of Interreligious Learning & Leadership](#)
and [Boston University's School of Theology](#)*

The Gift of Fresh Perspectives

By Tom Reid
 Assistant Director
[Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership](#)



The end of the year is the time many of us pause to reflect on all that has happened over the course of the year—both good and not so good. It is also a time to look forward to what the coming year may bring. Reflecting on my time thus far with the Boston Bridges program, I must note, first and foremost, how affirming it is to be among peers doing this work, rather than being the lone person interested in interreligious engagement or having to play the role of leader, facilitator, or educator. I simply get to be, and share, and listen without having to plan, or worry about what is next, or be “on.” It is such a gift that I did not fully appreciate until I found myself in the middle of it.

What a gift the simple creation of space is. Bringing together people with common interests or a common purpose is powerful. Even more, blocking out some regularly scheduled time without a to-do list or specific tasks that must be the focus of the time together is a rare and beautiful thing. And it has reminded me of one of my favorite things about interreligious or cross-cultural experiences: they teach us as much or more about ourselves and our own cultures, beliefs, or religious traditions as they do about the other(s) with whom we are engaging.

[Read more](#)

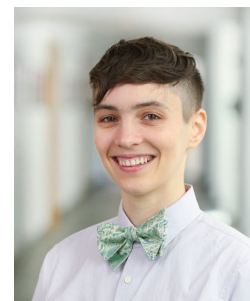


Posts from this [Hebrew College-hosted blog](#) are published weekly in [Patheos](#).

Two Ways to Tell a Story

Parashat Ki Tisa (Exodus 30:11-34:35)

By Rabbi Gray Myrseth, Rab`17
 School Director at Kehilla Community Synagogue in Piedmont, CA



In Parshat Ki Tisa, a tremendous rupture occurs. Moses is still up on Mount Sinai, obscured by the God-

cloud of Revelation, and the people wait long enough that they start to get scared. They want something to worship, so they build a golden calf and call it their God. When Moses returns with the tablets of Divine testimony, he cries out and throws the tablets to the ground, shattering them into fragments.

The story could so easily have ended there, with a covenant broken almost before it began. But ultimately, Moses ascends once again to the heights and the Holy One. During this second ascension, God promises to let Moses come even closer than before, to see not God's face but God's back—so long as Moses carves a second set of tablets where the covenant can be reinscribed.

I read this parsha and I see my own family. When my father was a young man, he returned in love from a trip abroad. In a teahouse in Kathmandu, on New Year's Day 1982, he had met a woman from Norway. They both fell in love at first sight. Back in his hometown of Minneapolis, he went to his childhood rabbi, saying, "I've met the woman I'm going to marry." He was right. My parents would be married within the year, my mother would move to San Francisco to live with my father, and the rest of our lives would unfold from there. But in that moment, when my father declared his momentous news, his rabbi could only say, "Don't do it. This is the worst mistake you could make. What will happen to the children?"

Read more



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