Rabbi Sonia Saltzman to Receive Esther Award

Hebrew College is pleased to share more exciting news about our upcoming Gala 2018 celebration on May 3. In addition to honoring Rabbi Daniel Lehmann's decade of leadership at Hebrew College, we will be awarding the Hebrew College 2018 Esther Award for Leadership & Philanthropy to Rabbi Sonia Saltzman, Rab’08, spiritual leader of Temple Ohabei Shalom in Brookline, MA.

Rabbi Saltzman was part of the first graduating class of the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College. During Rabbinical School Rabbi Saltzman held student pulpits at Temple Emanuel in Newton and at Temple Aliyah in Needham. She also completed chaplaincy training at Brigham and Women's Hospital and served as faculty for the Bronfman Youth Fellowship Program in Israel. Before joining Temple Ohabei Shalom, she served three years at Sha’arei Shalom, a non-affiliated community in Ashland, MA.

Prior to entering the rabbinate, Rabbi Saltzman worked in the

"I believe in the wisdom and beauty of Judaism and hope to inspire others to deepen
field of micro-finance at ACCION International as head of the Financial Services Department, extending credit to small businesses in the developing world. She also worked in Bank of Boston’s Project Finance Department and taught in its Loan Officer Development Program.

Rabbi Saltzman grew up in Chile, in a home imbued with Jewish values, but at a time when opportunities for Jewish learning were especially limited for women.

Rabbi Saltzman is a graduate of Tufts University and holds a Master's Degree in International Affairs (Columbia University) and a Masters Degree in Bible and Jewish Thought (Brandeis University).

their relationship to Judaism by offering opportunities to engage with our sacred texts, to experience the richness of prayer, and to build a caring and committed community." —Rabbi Sonia Saltzman

For Gala information, visit the Gala website or contact Sharon Katz at advancement@hebrewcollege.edu or 617.559.8764.

May 3, 2018 | 18 Iyar 5778
Cocktails and hors d’oeuvres at 6:30 pm
Seated dessert program at 7:30 pm
Gann Academy
333 Forest Street, Waltham, MA

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Humans of Hebrew College

Upcoming Events

TONIGHT! Bernstein Birthday Bash!
Concert featuring Kol Arev
March 22 at 7:30 pm | Free
Berenson Hall
Hebrew College
"I'm a talker, which is part of why I am pleased to have a job where I get to talk about Judaism every single week. It also means that, in addition to my public conversations, I find myself in lots of regular, day-to-day conversations about Judaism. Over the past many years, it became quite apparent that Jewish intermarriage (or interfaith marriage, or interfaithless marriage, depending on who you ask!) was on almost everybody's mind in the Jewish world...."

(Lex Rofeberg, online student in the Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement program.)
Rabbi Arthur Green, Rabbinical School Rector, just returned from California, where he delivered the David S. Lobel Visiting Scholar Lecture at Stanford University. His topic was "Taming the Shamanic Impulse: The Emergence of the Hasidic Master." The paper he delivered is to be published in a collection of studies honoring Israeli scholar Moshe Idel. On the weekend of March 9-11, Rabbi Green led a study retreat in Washington DC, honoring Rabbi Evan Krame on his sixtieth birthday.

Rabbi David Finkelstein, Rab ’14 and his work mobilizing his Waltham congregation to send supplies to a Jewish community in Uganda appeared in the March 9 issue of The Jewish Advocate (paid subscription only.)

School of Jewish Music Head of Vocal Arts Cantor Lynn Torgove, Can ’12, MAJS ’11 was the Hebrew language and diction coach for the Tanglewood Festival Chorus in the Boston Symphony Orchestra’s (BSO) performances of Leonard Bernstein’s Third Symphony, the 'Kaddish Symphony’, on March 16, 17 and 18. She also contributed an essay to the BSO’s program booklet. She will be the Hebrew language and diction coach for the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and BSO’s performance of Leonard Bernstein’s ‘Chichester Psalms’ at Tanglewood on July 15.

Prozdor Director Dan Brosgol’s article "The Right Time for Israel" appeared in the March 19 issue of The Jewish Advocate (paid subscription only.) The Rabbinical School’s Day of Learning on Mental Health was also mentioned in the same issue.

The Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership Director Rabbi Or Rose recently gave the lecture "Calling Out from the Depths: Reading the Psalms in Two Voices" at Milwaukee’s Sacred Heart Seminary and School of Theology.

Dean of the School of Jewish Music, Cantor Dr. Brian Mayer, conducted 400 teens at David Geffen Hall at Lincoln Center on March 18 for the 25th Anniversary HaZamir Festival. HaZamir is an international Jewish teen choir.

Snow blanketed the Hebrew College campus on March 13 and 14 after a Nor’easter rolled in. Rabbinical and cantorial students had the day off, but took advantage of the time to enjoy the snow and study Torah! (Photos by Arthur McCann)
Tzav: Offering Our Whole Selves
Parashat Tzav (Leviticus 6:1-8:36)

By Rabbi Margie Klein Ronkin, Rab `11
Spiritual leader of Congregation Sha'arei Shalom in Ashland, MA
Director of Clergy and Leadership Development, Essex County Community Organization

My first summer on staff with the PICO faith-based national organizing network, I heard an encouraging presentation about a model state federation, call it OSC, and how it was changing the politics of its state. Yet, the following summer, all of the OSC staff were inexplicably missing from the national staff gathering. I later learned from my friend and former OSC staffer, whom I'll call Emily, that despite their political success, the OSC organizational culture had grown so dysfunctional, racialized, and non-democratic that by spring everyone on staff had quit.

Despite this dramatic organizational collapse of a member organization, our national network stayed silent, and we moved on to focus on other state federations doing outstanding work.

Read more