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NEWS & VIEWS

March 30, 2017 | 3 Nisan, 5777

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Last Call to Register for Ruderman Summit

**Ruderman Summit on Philanthropy, Power and Democracy
in the Jewish Community of the 21st Century**
Sunday, April 2 | 11:30 am - 6 pm | Hebrew College
\$50 (\$25 General discount rate) | \$20 Student discount rate available

[The Ruderman Foundation](#), together with [Hebrew College](#) and the [Jewish Funders Network](#), invites you to a summit and public conversation on Jewish communal governance for the 21st century. [Learn more](#) about the panelists, topics of discussion, and how to register.

LEARN MORE ▶

REGISTER ▶

Free Pesah Webinar with Rabbi Ebn Leader

"What If We Were Truly Free? Reflections on the Relation Between Celebration and Responsibility on Pesah"

Instructor: Rabbi Ebn Leader, [Rabbinical School](#) faculty member

Tuesday, April 4, 2-3 pm | [Register](#)

A Global Justice Haggadah. Refugee Crisis Haggadah inserts. Environmental Justice Seder. Hunger Seder. BlackLivesMatter Haggadah. The Story of Modern Slavery Haggadah. In Search of Freedom Haggadah.

These are only a few of many new options currently available to Jews who wish to make the holiday "relevant to our times" and harness the power of this ancient Jewish celebration to our current social justice struggles.



Join Rabbi Ebn Leader for a one-hour conversation to discuss the challenges of celebrating Pesah in an historical context. Together, engaging texts of Midrash and teachings of Hasidism, examine:

- What is lost when current social justice struggles become a central element of the Seder?
- Are there other relevant lessons this ancient ritual might teach us that are not served by this focus?
- How do we set ritual priorities?

"Of course, new Haggadot and Sedarim are responses to the challenge of celebrating Pesah in a historical context where we, as American Jews largely enjoy an unprecedented level of freedom, but many other people, even within the U.S. do not," said Rabbi Leader.

Even if you are not able to attend live, we encourage you to register. After the webinar, you will receive a link to the on-demand version to view at your convenience.

REGISTER ▶



Countdown to the Hebrew College Gala 2017: One Month to Go!

Please RSVP by purchasing your tickets and tributes by this coming Monday, April 3rd. Questions? Contact [Lauren Hobler](#) at 617.559.8847

Join us in an exciting evening of celebrating the innovation of Hebrew College's 96 years as a leading institution of Jewish education and leadership! This year's Gala will be a memorable night of storytelling and musical performance as we honor three remarkable leaders of Hebrew College and the Boston Jewish community: **Louis Grossman, Me'ah`00**; **Rabbi Ma'ayan Sands, MAJS`93, Rab`16**; and **Susan Ain, MAJS`11**.

Even if you are not able to attend the event, please consider making a gift or tribute in honor of these committed leaders of our Hebrew College community. Mazal tov Louis, Susan, and Ma'ayan!



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Shoolman School Torah Godly Play Training



Torah Godly Play is an innovative approach to religious education that seeks not so much to tell stories of faith in order that we will "know" them, but as spiritual action of finding meaning, identity and God through storytelling and listening. The pedagogical ideal of this approach is that, from the earliest age, children are invited to experience and become increasingly aware of the spiritual call within sacred stories and of their own deep response as something naturally afforded by religious narrative.



[Watch a demo of the Exodus story with Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire, Hebrew College Chief Academic Officer](#)

The [Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education](#) will be offering a two-day training session for on Torah Godly Play for anyone who is interested: Sunday afternoon, May 7 from 2-7 pm and Monday afternoon, May 8 from 2-5 pm.

The full eight-hour training provides an introduction to the Torah Godly Play methodology, practice with stories and resource development. Fee: \$85 and includes dinner on Sunday. (Hebrew College students may attend for half price.)

REGISTER ►

Me'ah Online Course and Podcast



Class begins: May 1
NEW PRICE: \$125 | [Register](#)

Learn about Jewish history at your own "time and place" with [Me'ah Online](#) this spring. Based on Hebrew College's highly acclaimed Me'ah Classic courses, our new online offerings provide in-depth study of the Jewish experience across geography and time, and add the convenience of online access.

The first course, *Journey Through the Bible*, begins its spring session on May 1 and will be led by renowned biblical scholar Dr. Marc Brettler. This 10-week class comprises over 13 hours of fascinating videos and lectures and offers an in-depth view of the Hebrew Bible, along with the people and materials that gave rise to it.

- [Sample the class via the Me'ah Online Podcast](#)
- [Follow Me'ah Online on Facebook](#)
- [Learn more about Me'ah Online](#)



REGISTER ►

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Humans of Hebrew College



Learn more about [Open Circle Jewish Learning](#) Associate Director [Betsy More](#) and other Hebrew College #Humans on [Facebook](#) and [our blog](#). If you are interested in being featured, please contact webmaster@hebrewcollege.edu. You can also find Hebrew College alumni and students on the Hebrew College [LinkedIn page](#). (Remember to update your LinkedIn profile!)

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Sights & Sounds



On March 28, [The Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership](#) co-sponsored and hosted "Seeking Higher Ground: Religion and Conflict Transformation," a one-day workshop that brought together 75 community leaders, giving them the opportunity to interact with one another, learning skills and practices from the world of conflict transformation. They

addressed the need to develop religious communities into places where people can respect the dignity of differences, share stories and have honest conversations about things that matter, and focus on relational and communal healing.

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Notable & Quotable

Rabbi Or Rose, Director of the [Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership](#), and **Celene Ibrahim**, Islamic Studies Scholar-in-Residence, were quoted in a March 27 [Boston Globe article](#) entitled "Muslim and Jewish communities bond amid fear." The article highlighted their work to promote greater understanding between Jews and Muslims.



Dr. Keren McGinity, director of the Shoolman School's [Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement program](#) (IFJE), was featured in a [March 30 Forward article](#) entitled, "Conservatives Welcome Non-Jews - But Will They Be Second-Class Citizens in Synagogue?" Applications are now being accepted for the IFJE program and generous scholarships are available.



[School of Jewish Music](#) Adjunct Instructor Cantor **Jeff Klepper** was featured in a [Massachusetts Jewish Ledger](#) article entitled "Jeff Klepper brings the blues to TES (Temple Emanuel Sinai of Worcester)." The article included a Q & A with Klepper and highlighted an upcoming event at TES in which he will explore the intersection of Eastern-European Jewish and African-American music in American rhythm and blues.



Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire, Hebrew College Chief Academic Officer, will speak on "The Myth of Hitler's Jewish Museum" on April 4 at 7pm, Temple Tiferet Shalom in Peabody, MA. [Learn more](#) about the event.



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March and April Events

(hebrewcollege.edu/upcoming-events)



Pharaoh's Daughter (Bityah): The Unsung Heroine of the Exodus.
 with Rachel Adelman, Ph.D. Assistant Professor of Bible at Hebrew College
 April 1 Post-Kiddush
 Congregation Mishkan Tefila
 384 Harvard Street, Brookline, MA



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

**The Language of Awakening in the Zohar:
 The Sparkling Gem of Mystical Judaism**
 with Melila Hellner-Eshed, PhD
 April 4 at 7:30 pm
 Hebrew College
 \$10 | [Register](#)

Hebrew College Gala 2017
 April 27 at 5:30 pm
 Back Bay Events Center
[Learn more](#) | [Purchase Tickets and Tributes](#)

Power of Music: Three Sunday Mornings of Jewish Music
 April 30 - Cantor Lynn Torgove, MAJS'11, Can'12
 May 7 - Rabbi Nehemia Polen
 May 21 - Cantor Becky Khitrik, Can'14 & Hankus Netsky
 All classes run 9:30-11:15 am (choose 1, 2 or 3)
 Congregation Mishkan Tefila
 384 Harvard Street, Brookline, MA
[Register](#)



Pictured above l-r: Dr. Rachel Adelman, Dr. Melila Hellner- Eshed, Rabbi Nehemia Polen, Cantor Lynn Torgove, and Hankus Netsky.

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From the Hebrew College Blog (blog.hebrewcollege.edu)

STATE OF FORMATION

A program of the [Miller Center for Interreligious Leadership & Learning](#) and the Boston University School of Theology

The Practices of a Spiritual Leader

By Rabbi Ariel Mayse

Director of the [Jewish Studies Program](#) at Hebrew College

I have been a teacher for as long as I remember. It started with becoming a martial arts instructor beginning in my early teens, and, as my spiritual journey led me to Judaism, serving as a teacher of Jewish texts and tradition since before my twentieth birthday. For the past four years I have been teaching at a yeshivah, a Jewish seminary, in Jerusalem. Teaching in this environment is quite different than university instruction. Yeshivah teachers do not simply impart information. In fact, this is only a small part of our job. Here, our religious personalities and our own devotional lives are our most powerful teaching tools. This gives rise to a complex dynamic, however, because it means that we must constantly be checking to make sure that we are not simply putting on a show for our students. Authentic religious expression inspires and educates, not sham piety or performances.



> [READ FULL POST](#)

Now accepting applications for the [Jewish Studies Program](#)

SEVENTY FACES OF TORAH

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

Calling Out and Coming Close

Parshat Vayikra, Leviticus 1:1-5:26)

By **Mónica Gomery**

Student, [Rabbinical School of Hebrew College](#)



In Hebrew, the book of Leviticus is named for its opening word, “*vayikra*,” meaning “and he called.” Here God calls out to Moses, transmitting a set of instructions for what will be the sacrificial system of the Temple. In Vayikra’s second verse, God begins to unfold this intricate system, which will occupy the length of an entire book of Torah: “*Adam ki yakriv mikem korban*/when a person brings an offering...”

As a poet who often reads Torah as the craft of verse, I can’t help but hear the phonetics of God’s opening call: *Ki yakriv mikem korban*, the hard K sounds stringing these words together, clanging out a percussive sequence that is both satisfying and slightly discordant—an indicator to pay attention.

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