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המכללה העברית
HEBREW COLLEGE
 Jewish learning and leadership for a pluralistic world

News and Views

April 12, 2018 | 27 Nisan 5778 | Yom HaShoah

Thoughts on the Season by President-Elect Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld

This week marks the beginning of a ten day period in which we link our lives to the life of the Jewish people. Today, on Yom Hashoah, we commemorate those whose lives were taken—or torn apart—by the horrors of the Holocaust.



Next week, we will mark both Yom Hazikaron and Yom Ha'atzma'ut – first, the day on which we commemorate those who have fallen in service of the State of Israel, and immediately after that, the day on which we celebrate the creation and flourishing of Israel as a sovereign Jewish and democratic country.

These days remind us that we do not live our lives in isolation. They remind us that we do not grieve alone and we do not rejoice alone. And they remind us that memory makes demands – to remember is to connect ourselves to both the blessings and the burdens of belonging. All of these reminders can be comforting, and, if taken seriously, they can also be inconvenient. In Israel, Yom HaShoah and Yom HaZikaron are marked with the sound of sirens, blasting throughout the country. Wherever people find themselves – in classrooms, workplaces, hospitals, or suddenly stopped at the side of the road – they stand for a moment of collective memory and mourning. On these days, wherever we are, whatever we are preoccupied with in our own lives, may we stop for a moment – may we pause and rise to the awareness that our lives are linked to something larger than ourselves. And may we move forward with renewed purpose and hope.



Miller Center Spearheads Interfaith Workshops

This is a busy time of year for the staff of the [Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership](#), with two upcoming intensive programs this weekend: one for Boston-area undergraduate leaders and a second for a group of graduate students and emerging professionals from across the country.

On Saturday, April 14, 35-40 students from Boston University, Harvard, Northeastern, Tufts, and Wellesley will gather on the Hebrew College campus for an exploration of the theme of hospitality across faith traditions. The day will include special Shabbat observances, a presentation by award-winning writer Jenna Russell of the ***Boston Globe***, and various interfaith workshops facilitated by students and staff from the participating schools. The retreat is the culminating event of a yearlong fellowship program called The Boston Interfaith Leadership Initiative (BILI).

"The cohort model has allowed participants and staff the opportunity to forge personal relationships that will continue to develop beyond the duration of the formal programs," said Miller Center Director Rabbi Or Rose.

"BILI has helped connect me to interfaith leaders on other Boston campuses. It's been inspirational to work alongside a group of fellow, budding leaders of the same age who have different experiences and backgrounds," said Ann-Marie Lee, a BILI student from Tufts University. (Pictured: Students at a previous BILI workshop.)

On Sunday, April 15, the Miller Center will co-host, with the Boston University School of Theology, a daylong seminar for 15 outstanding emerging religious and ethical leaders from Massachusetts, New York, Georgia, Minnesota, New Mexico, and California. The purpose of the gathering is to celebrate the completion of the first pilot cohort experience of the State of Formation blogging fellowship. Supported by a generous grant from the Henry Luce Foundation, [State of Formation](#) is an online platform on which fellows and guest writers share

their writings on subjects related to religion, ethics, and public life, with an emphasis on interreligious and cross-cultural conversation. At the seminar, the fellows will spend time sharing their writings with one another, hearing from leading public intellectuals and religious educators, and reflecting on the fellowship program.

Read more about the Miller Center



Gala
2018

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

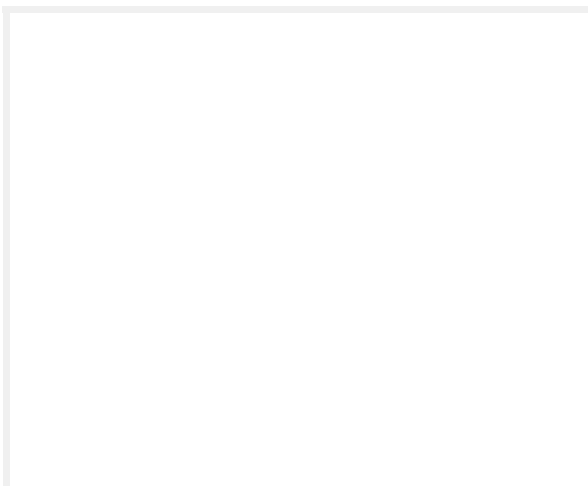
CELEBRATE WITH US: RESERVE TODAY OR MAKE A GIFT >>



Humans of Hebrew College



Upcoming Events



Hebrew College Gala 2018

Honoring Rabbi Daniel Lehmann and
Rabbi Sonia Saltzman

May 3 | 6:30 pm

Gann Academy, Waltham, MA

[Purchase tickets and sponsorships](#)

Hebrew College Commencement

June 3 | 10 am- Noon

Hebrew College

[More Information](#)



Cantorial Ordination

June 3 | 1:30 - 2:30 pm
Temple Reyim, Newton, MA

[More Information](#)

Rabbinical Ordination

June 3 | 3 - 4:30 pm
Temple Reyim, Newton, MA

[More Information](#)

SAVE THE DATE

Presidential Installation Ceremony

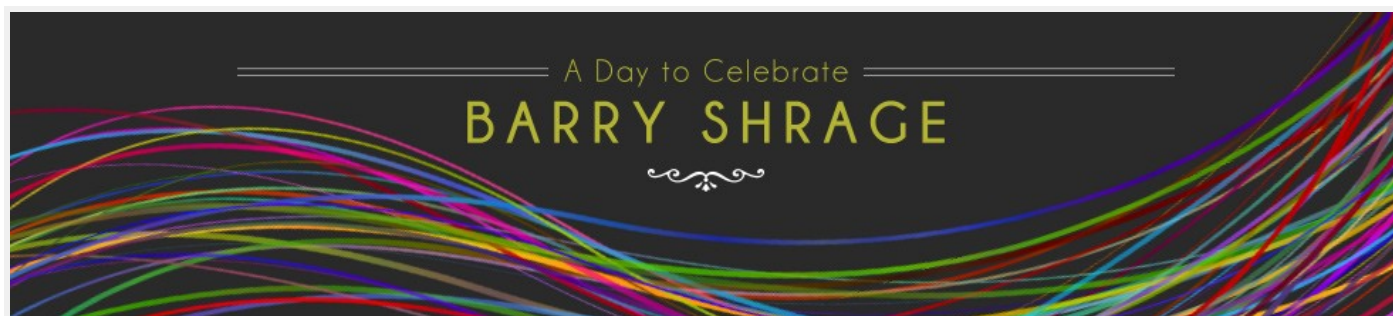
Celebrating Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld
October 25 | Evening
Hebrew College
Information coming soon

"I think in everything I do I'm Jewish, even when I write a piece that is not specifically Jewish. That's my soul, and that underlies and inspires all of my work."

(Composer, pianist, director, conductor and 1954 [Prozdor](#) graduate, [Simon Sargon](#).)

[Read Simon's story](#)

[More Events](#)



Honoring Our Past, Shaping our Future: CJP's Morning of Learning

On Sunday, April 29, CJP President Barry Shrage will be joined by internationally renowned scholars for a Morning of Learning with David Ariel, Marc Zvi Brettler, Rabbi Lawrence A. Hoffman, Professor Shulamit Reinharz, and Professor Fania Oz-Salzberger.

Learn more and register



Hebrew College Chief Academic Officer and Shoolman School Dean **Rabbi Dr. Michael Shire** was quoted in an April 9 [Boston Globe story](#) about the second annual Open Mosque Day on April 9, which he attended with his 96-year-old mother, Ruth Shire.

On April 10, The Jewish Telegraphic Agency ran a feature story about the [Rabbinical School of Hebrew College](#) students who are creating the video "All Genders Wrap" that shows women, transgender and non-binary Jews demonstrating how to wear tefillin. [Read the story and learn more in the video](#) by second-career student **Rachel Putterman**.

"Review of Gertrude Weil: Jewish Progressive in the New South (Leonard Rogoff, 2017)" by **Judith Pinnolis**, Adjunct Instructor of Jewish Music at the [School of Jewish Music at Hebrew College](#), was published in ***Women in Social Movements: 1600-2000*** (University of North Carolina Press).

Rabbi David Fainsilber, Rab` 14 of the Jewish Community of Greater Stowe, VT was featured in the March 21 issue of ***Seven Days*** in a story entitled, "[Unlikely Allies Open a Homeless](#)



CEO Forum with Leonard Schlesinger: "What Great Service Leaders Know and Do"



(Above) A capacity crowd gathered on April 10 for Hebrew College's fifth annual CEO Forum with Harvard Business School Professor Leonard Schlesinger. (Pictured l-r) Co-chairs David Teplow, Carl B. Chudnofsky, Schlesinger, President-Elect Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, and Board Chair Andy Offit. Not pictured, co-chair Gerald Gerson.

(Below) Kronos CEO Aron Ain (right) was the moderator of the event.

[Shelter in Lamoille County. "](#)

[The Early Childhood Institute](#) at Hebrew College published the [JEEF Newsletter](#). JEEF (Jewish Early Engagement Forum) was founded by Early Childhood Institute Director **Rachel Raz, MJED `06**, to advance and encourage national dialogue in the field.



Blog

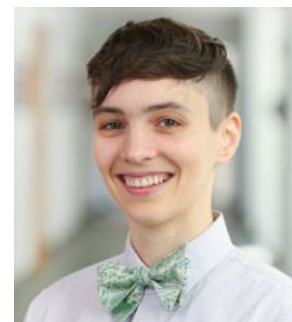


Posts from this Hebrew College-hosted blog is published weekly in [Patheos](#).

Teaching at the Edge of Mystery

Parashat Shemini (Leviticus 9:1-11:47)

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



On a Tuesday towards the end of last summer, I sat in a classroom at my [shul](#), across the table from two twelve-year-old boys. It was the first of many lessons we would have together in the course of their Bar Mitzvah studies and we were discussing their Torah portion assignments.

One would be chanting from and speaking about Parshat Shlach Lecha, with its themes of perception, doubt, fear, and courage. The other had been given Parshat Shemini, in the thick of the Book of Leviticus. One look at this student's wide eyes as we outlined the content of his parsha told

me just how much work lay before us.

While the parshiyot on skin disease may be the most common fodder for comedic B'nai Mitzvah horror stories, this parsha must come in a close second. We open with the newly ordained levitical priests, Aaron and his sons, beginning to officiate in the tabernacle. Through the divine game of telephone, God tells Moses to tell Aaron about the specific rules for certain offerings. In the first two aliyot, that procedure is explained and followed in exquisite detail, down to last smoking oxtail on the altar.

Read more



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