



## NEWS & VIEWS

May 10, 2018 | 25 Iyar 5778



### Prozdor Celebrates 87th Graduation

At last Sunday's [Prozdor of Hebrew College](#) graduation, the community celebrated the 26 graduates from the class of 2018/5778 who came from communities throughout the Greater Boston area and

reflected the diversity of Jewish life in the region. Dan Brosgol, Director of Prozdor, recognized these exceptional graduates saying, “You are the best of the best. The ones who have elected to add on Jewish education on top of everything else, and to do so all the way through the end of your high school years. Now more than ever, you deserve to be applauded for that commitment.”

In this multi-year program, students explored their Jewish identities, Jewish values, and Jewish education. “Prozdor became a part of you and your Jewish identity...just as you have become a part of Prozdor and helped transform it into what it is.... I have watched you recognize your Jewish values and apply them to your everyday lives,” said Leah Goldstein, Associate Director of Prozdor.

Student speakers included Alanna Gold, Adi Volosov and Rebecca Silverman who discussed how they came to experience and understand the importance of community. “I never realized how important it was for me to have a strong Jewish community around me, until I was given the privilege to be a part of one, ” said Adi.

Further demonstrating the diverse interests and abilities of the graduating class, Max Breslau and Shahar Hartman, each speaking in Hebrew, shared their accomplishments and challenges on their Hebrew-learning journeys, and Noah Jacobson performed the [stirring Klezmer clarinet piece \*Doina\*](#) accompanied by instructor Glenn Dickson on piano.

Prozdor graduates leave the program transformed and ready to take on challenges they will face post-high school. [Read where the graduates are headed next year.](#)

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## Summer Registration Open

Don't miss this chance for summer enrichment. Hebrew College offers classes, including courses in Hebrew language online or on campus, Jewish Education, Jewish Studies, and Jewish Music.



Offerings include:

- **Prayer Leader Summer Institute, June 5 - July 27.** Classes in classical and contemporary styles of service leading and Jewish sacred music. [Learn more.](#)
- **Developmentally Appropriate Early Childhood Curriculum, June 11-Aug. 17.** An online course to learn to develop a Jewish early childhood curriculum. [Learn more.](#)
- **Ulpan on campus, June 11 - July 20.** A full-language program that teaches grammar, reading comprehension and conversation skills. Classes at all levels. Contact [Tzilla Barone](#) for details.
- **Modern Hebrew Online, June 11 - August 17.** Learn reading, speaking, comprehension and writing. Find [course descriptions](#), [registration](#) and [tuition](#) information [online](#).
- **Neurodiversity across the Jewish Lifespan, on campus July 15 - 20.** Explores neurodiversity as part of people’s lifelong experiences. [Read more.](#) Tuition scholarships available.
- **The Parable/Mashal across Jewish Literature, on campus July 23-27.** Traces the evolving form of the *mashal*, the parable, within diverse genres and historical periods. [Read more.](#)

For more information about these classes or any of our summer offerings, contact the Office of Admissions at [admissions@hebrewcollege.edu](mailto:admissions@hebrewcollege.edu) or 617.559.8622.

View summer course listings



*Achinoam Nini and Mira Awad shared their stories and songs of peace activism in Marsh Chapel at BU.*

## Bridging Communities Through the Arts

On Monday afternoon students and faculty from Boston University and Hebrew College came together to explore how the arts can serve as a powerful tool for pursuing peace among divided communities. The symposium included a text study on pluralism led by Rabbi Or Rose and workshops with Artsbridge Executive Director Deborah Nathan and Achinoam Nini and Mira Awad, renowned Israeli Jewish and Israeli Arab performers.

“Bridging Communities Through the Arts” was co-sponsored by the [Miller Center for Learning & Leadership at Hebrew College](#) and the Program on Religion and Conflict Transformation at Boston University School of Theology and was funded by the Jewish Cultural Endowment at Boston University.



*Honoree and President Rabbi Daniel Lehmann and President-Elect Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld*



*Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld and Esther Award recipient Rabbi Sonia Saltzman*

## Gala 2018 Celebrates Hebrew College President Rabbi Daniel Lehmann and Rabbi Sonia Saltzman

On May 3, the Hebrew College and Greater Boston Jewish Community came together to celebrate Hebrew College, Rabbi Sonia Saltzman, and Hebrew College President Rabbi Danny Lehmann and his decade of leadership. The sold-out event was held at Gann Academy, where Rabbi Lehmann was the

founding headmaster. The successful event raised more than \$352,000 for the College, \$52,000 of which was for the newly established Rabbi Daniel L. Lehmann Scholarship Fund.

Hebrew College is deeply grateful to the [host committee](#), emcees, speakers, musicians, and Hebrew College faculty, students, and alumni who spoke at event. View the [online tribute book](#), and [photos](#).

*(If you would like to contribute to the scholarship fund, you may make a donation using our [secure online gift form](#) or by mailing a check to: Office of Institutional Advancement, Hebrew College, 160 Herrick Road, Newton Centre, MA 02459.)*

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## Kol haKavod Rabbi Micha'el Rosenberg

Hebrew College is pleased to announce that Rabbi Micha'el Rosenberg has been granted tenure. Chief Academic Officer Rabbi Michael Shire made the announcement to the student and faculty community this week, followed by a standing ovation and round of applause for Rabbi Rosenberg.




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## Inaugural Scholarship Awarded

On May 9, graduating rabbinical student Lev Friedman and his family presented the inaugural [Linda Friedman Memorial Award](#), in memory of Lev's beloved sister, to rabbinical student Mimi Micner. Each year, one third or fourth year Hebrew College rabbinical student will receive the award in honor of social justice work they have recently completed or in which they are taking ongoing leadership.



Pictured l-r: Rabbi Shoshana Friedman, Rabbi 14, Lev Friedman, and Mimi Micner.

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## In Memoriam: Rabbi Aaron Panken

The Hebrew College community is deeply saddened by the passing of Rabbi Aaron Panken z"l, President of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, who died May 5 in a tragic plane crash.

Our hearts go out to all of our colleagues in the Reform movement, and to the countless people who called him teacher, mentor, and friend. "We join in sorrow at this profound loss for Hebrew Union College, for the entire Jewish people and for the world," said President-Elect Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld.

Our deepest condolences to his family. May they be comforted among the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.



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

# Torah: An Inheritance in this World

Parshat Behar-Behukotai  
(Leviticus, 25:1-27:34)

By **Rabbi Becky Silverstein, Rab`14**  
Jewish Spiritual Advisor at [Northeastern University's Center for Spirituality, Dialogue and Service](#) and Program Manager for the [Boston Teen Beit Midrash](#).



At a recent Keshet LGBTQ and Ally Teen Shabbaton, I asked the participants to consider their relationship with Torah and how it functions in their lives. Students shared their own experiences of

encountering Torah, broadly defined, while considering images of Torah as fire, water, wine, honey, oil, and milk. The group coalesced around a broad understanding of Torah as path creator, and diverged on how much Torah defined the path or guided them along theirs.

In *Parshat Behar-Behukotai*, we read about the consequences of not walking on the strict path of Torah. The Torah shares a set of laws, spoken to Moses *behar*, on the mountain, and the rewards or consequences for walking or failing to walk *behukotai*, in those laws. These specific laws detail our obligation to the land through the practice of *shmita* and *yovel*, the rest and release of our land in the Jubilee year. The obligations of *yovel*, the Jubilee, includes the handling of debts to both our kinsman and the strangers who reside among us. Repeated throughout the text is the refrain that God brought us out of Egypt. Freedom from slavery positions the Israelites in a covenant with God, with the land, and with each other.

Read more



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