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NEWS & VIEWS

June 21, 2018 | 8 Tammuz 5778



Preparing for the Season of Teshuvah

Even though summer is just beginning and we are in the month of Tammuz, it's not too early to be thinking about the season of *teshuvah*.

To prepare, our faculty, alumni, and students collaborated to create the Hebrew College High Holiday Companion. Published last summer, the book is a collection of reflections on the prayers, scriptural readings, and sacred practices of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur to help illumine the way into the High Holiday liturgy and these sacred days of return and renewal.

Learn more about the High Holiday Companion and learn how to order a copy for yourself, family, friends, or congregants.



Order Your Copy

Ta Sh'ma

Come & Hear

Rabbinical & Cantorial Open House and Day of Learning: Nov. 12, 2018

In a changing Jewish world, as the roles of rabbi and cantor continue to expand well beyond the pulpit, Hebrew College prepares spiritual leaders to be authentic inheritors and innovators of Jewish tradition.

Experience the vibrant pluralistic communities of Hebrew College's pioneering rabbinical, cantorial and rav-hazzan programs. Join with students and faculty for an inspiring day of learning, conversation, music and prayer.



LEARN MORE &
REGISTER

Now Enrolling: Summer Neurodiversity Course



Individuals live with a range of strengths and challenges at all stages of life. Hebrew College's new summer **Neurodiversity across the Jewish Lifespan** course explores neurodiversity as part of people's lifelong experiences. The course, taught by alumna Rachel Figursmith, will run the week of July 15th on campus in Newton Centre. In addition to matriculated students, this week-long exploration is open to local practitioners, educators and clergy in addition to matriculated students.

Specifically, students will explore the concept and language of neurodiversity and how these can shape our interactions with members of our communities. As an on-campus summer intensive, this course will involve meeting directly with service providers, educational leaders, neurodivergent individuals and families, in order to explore ways in which the Jewish community can support the needs of neurodiverse individuals across the Jewish lifespan. Students will benefit from direct contact with cutting-edge programs in the Boston area through site visits and meetings with thought leaders and practitioners in the field.

For information or to register, contact Deb Ron at dron@hebrewcollege.edu or 617.559.8624.

NEW Date: October 15



Celebrating Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld

PRESIDENTIAL
INSTALLATION
CEREMONY
HEBREW COLLEGE

TEMPLE EMANUEL, NEWTON
OCTOBER 15, 2018, 6:15 PM

WWW.HEBREWCOLLEGE.EDU/INSTALLATION



Save the date and join us for this event at
Temple Emanuel, 385 Ward Street, Newton, Massachusetts.
Bookmark the installation website and check for more information coming soon.

In Memoriam

Dr. David Ariel z"l

It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of our beloved and gifted Me'ah Classic, Me'ah Select and Open Circle Jewish Learning teacher, Dr. David Ariel z"l on June 16. Shiva continues at Orchard Cove in Canton tonight from 7-9 pm.

In addition to teaching for Hebrew College adult learning programs, Ariel taught in CJP's Kevah

Upcoming Events



Prayer Leader Summer Institute

June 5-July 27

Hebrew College

[Learn More & Register](#)

Workshop on Jewish Drumming & Spirituality with Mitch Gordon

July 23, 25, 26 | 7pm

Hebrew College

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

Concert with Noah Aronson & Friends

program and for the American Joint Distribution Committee in Eastern Europe, for Kivunim, a gap-year program in Israel, and for Hillel. He lectured widely on Jewish thought throughout the U.S., Israel, the former Soviet Union, and Europe.

Hamakom yenachem etchem b'toch sh'ar aveilei Tzion V'Yerushalayim. May the memory of Dr. David Ariel z"l, be a blessing to all those who knew and loved him and may the Almighty comfort the bereaved family among all the mourners of Zion and Jerusalem.

July 24 | 7pm
Hebrew College
Information coming soon

DATE CHANGE

**Presidential Installation of
Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld**

October 15 | 6:15 pm

Temple Emanuel

Newton, MA

[Learn more](#)



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

Death as a Sacred Moment

Parshat Chukat

(Numbers, 19:1-22:1)

By Rabbi Leora Abelson, Rab' 17
Congregational Rabbi and Chaplain in Training



When June rolls around, I feel a certain sadness that contrasts with the natural world, with the bursting of life in the temperate northeast where I live. June is when the trees are in full flower, the grass is thick, and the days are long. This joyful context means it always takes me a minute to remember why I feel sad—because my grandfathers died in June, both of them, and even though it was more than a decade ago, my body responds to this season with a feeling of sadness.

My grandfathers died just a couple of days apart from one another, but their deaths were very different. My grandpa Art had a devastating stroke and then lived for a few months in the hospital, unable to communicate. His loved ones spent those months by his side and their expressions of love were powerful and moving, but the experience was anxious and confusing for all of us, as we prayed for him to die as quickly as possible. My grandpa Ted had pancreatic cancer, and after a year and a half of treatment, moved into my family's living room to die. He ate all of his favorite food, including pie every day, and called loved ones, students, and friends from throughout his life to say goodbye. It was still painful, humiliating, and uncomfortable, but it was also deeply connected and meaningful.

Read more

COMMUNITY BLOG

"In the deserts of the Heart, let the healing fountain start"

By Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld, President-Elect, Hebrew College



Toward the end of this week's *parasha*, the Israelites come to a place called Be'er (meaning "well" in Hebrew).

There, in the middle of the desert, they discover a well, an unexpected source of water. An unexpected source of hope, sustenance, and healing. The moment awakens a song, "Then Israel sang this song: 'Spring up, O well, sing to it!'" [Numbers 21:17] The Hasidic master, the Sefat Emet, sees in the image of the well a reflection of the true meaning of Torah. He quotes Proverbs 5:15: "Drink water from your cistern (*bor*) and flowing water from your well (*be'er*). And he asks, "What is the difference between a cistern and a well? What is the difference between a *bor* and a *be'er*?"

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