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NEWS & VIEWS

September 12, 2019 | 12 Elul 5779



Welcoming the Hebrew College Academic Year at Hakhel

Matthew Goldberg, Rav-Hazzan `23, blew the shofar at Hakhel, the school-wide ceremony to kick-off the new academic year, on Monday, September 9. Speakers included Hebrew College President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld; Rabbi Michael Shire, Dean of the [Shoolman School of Education](#); Tom Reid, Assistant Director of the [Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership](#); and Noam Lerman,

RS `20. Jackson Mercer, RS `23 played the guitar. Hebrew College welcomed 17 new rabbinical students, one new Rav-Hazzan student, two new cantorial students, and 11 new education students this fall.

[Read remarks from Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld](#)

[Read remarks from Tom Reid, Assistant Director of the Miller Center](#)

SIGHTS & SOUNDS



Hebrew College President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld gave the following remarks at the orientation program for new rabbinical and cantorial ordination students on August 26, 2019.

Learning, to be of Service

By Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld
[President, Hebrew College](#)

One of the things I love most about being at Hebrew College has to do with the way we stand at the nexus of the academy and the community, in a place where learning is so deeply bound up with a sense of service — to the Jewish people, to the world, and to God.

I have spent a lot of time this summer thinking about that sense of service. In fact, I had a powerful experience at the Harvard Business School (HBS) in July that sent me into a bit of an identity crisis. (I don't know if you will find this worrisome or reassuring, but powerful experiences often send me into an identity crisis — in the best sense of the term.)

I was participating in one of HBS's executive leadership programs with 165 CEO's of non-profits from 50 countries around the world. Over the course of that week, I came to feel close to extraordinary people working on enormous issues like sanitation in India, HIV in South Africa, poverty and illiteracy in Detroit, protection of endangered species all over the world.

So, of course, I thought a lot about: What am I working on? What are we working on?

[Read More on the President's Blog](#)

70 FACES OF TORAH

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

No Double Standards

Parashat Ki Tetzei (Deuteronomy 21:10-25:19)

By Rabbi Nehemia Polen
Hebrew College Professor of Jewish Thought



Toward the end of this week's *parashat*, the Torah tells us that you should not have in your pouch diverse weights: a great and a small. You should not have in your house diverse measures of volume: a great and a small. You should have a perfect and just weight, a perfect and a just measure of volume, in order that your days be lengthened on the ground that the Lord your God gives you.

Rashi, based on early *Midrash*, explains this to mean that you must not use an overweight or oversize measure when you are making a purchase, thereby cheating the seller; or an underweight or undersize measure when you are making a sale, thereby cheating the purchaser. Rashi calls this deceptive practice employing "a large measure that contradicts the small one," since each of the weights purports to be, for example, a kilogram, but one is actually above that mass and the other below. This is an early version of fair trade legislation.

One might say that such concerns were crucial back in antiquity, but we live in a country that has a Department of Weights and Standards, which enforces uniformity and honesty in such matters. However, the reality is more complicated — and more painful. It is true that when we fill up our gas

tanks with fuel, we expect the government to have monitored the pump so that we receive the actual number of gallons we are paying for. But “just standards” is a much more expansive concept.

Read More

EVENTS



A Taste of Me'ah at Hebrew College

Discover the amazing Hebrew College program, supported by CJP, that provides adults of all backgrounds with a foundation in Jewish culture and civilization.

During each free “taste,” you will meet with one of our stellar instructors, enjoy a sample lesson, and learn all about the [Me’ah](#) journey.

September 12 | 7 - 8:30 pm
with Rabbi Leonard Gordon, DMin
Hebrew College
[Learn more](#)

September 25 | 7 - 8:30 pm
with Rabbi Neal Gold
Hebrew College
[Learn more](#)

Blossoming: The 2019 Hebrew College Jewish Education Conference

The two-day conference will focus on the blossoming of educators, professionals, students, families, organizations and the Jewish family. Speakers include Avraham Infeld, Jewish educator, thinker, and leader, and Hebrew College Rector Rabbi Arthur Green.

Azamra: Alternative Shabbat Community Minyan

Join Rabbi Lev Friedman, Rab` 18 for a morning service in the Hebrew College Beit Midrash, followed by a pot-luck vegetarian kiddush luncheon. Occurs monthly. Supported by the [Hebrew College Innovation Lab](#).

September 28 | 10 am-12 pm
Hebrew College
[Learn more](#)⁸⁸

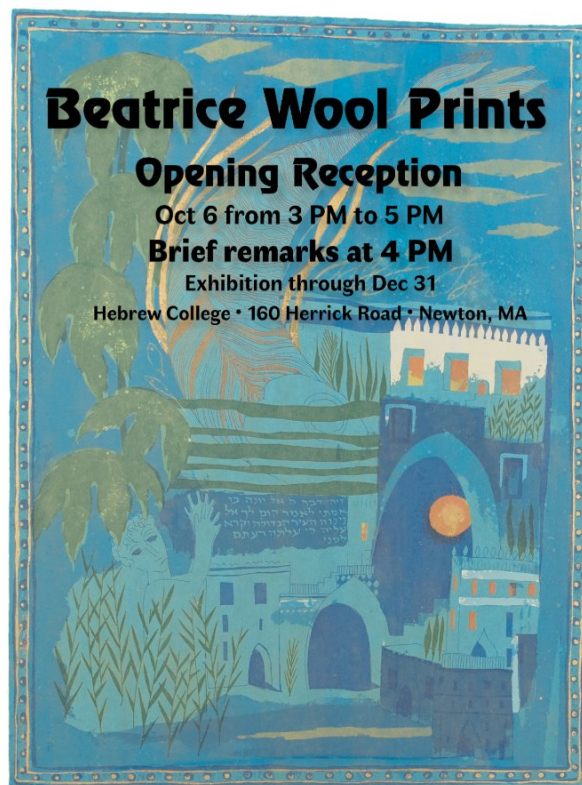
November 11-12
Hebrew College
[Learn more](#)



A New Hasidism: Study, Reflection, Celebration

Celebrate the publication of Hebrew College Rector Rabbi Art Green and Dr. Ariel Mayse's new work on the history, development, and contemporary practice of Neo-Hasidism.

November 3 | 2 - 8 pm
Hebrew College
[Learn more](#)



Beatrice Wool Prints Art Opening and Reception

Celebrate the works of Beatrice Wool z"l, a Hebrew College alumnus and artist, who based many of her prints on Biblical themes, including the days of creation, women and men in the Bible, holidays, and scenes of Israel. Wool's prints are on display and available for purchase at Hebrew College through December 31.

October 6 | 3-5 pm
Hebrew College
[Learn more](#)

View and Download Hebrew
College's Fall 2019 Community
Learning Course Catalog



Ordination Program Open House: November 18

Looking for a career with meaning? Are you or is someone you know considering a career as a rabbi, cantor, or rav-hazzan? Join us on **Monday, November 18** for Hebrew College's Open House and Day of Learning, *Ta Sh'ma* (Come & Hear) to experience the vibrant pluralistic community of our pioneering rabbinical, cantorial and rav-hazzan programs. Join with students and faculty for an inspiring day of learning, conversation, music and prayer. Optional: Visit classes on November 19.

[Learn More](#)



Hebrew College High Holiday Companion

The faculty, alumni, and students of Hebrew College have created the *Hebrew College High Holiday Companion*, a collection of reflections on the prayers, scriptural readings, and sacred practices of Rosh Hashanah and Yom Kippur. Featuring original essays, poetry, and visual artwork, this booklet will help illumine the High Holiday liturgy and these sacred days of return and renewal. We warmly invite you to journey with us as you begin thinking about the season of *teshuvah*.

Learn more and order your copy



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