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NEWS & VIEWS

September 13, 2018 | 4 Tishrei 5779

K'tivah v'hatimah tovah! - May you be inscribed and sealed for a good year.



Hebrew College Educators' Conference

The Multiple Dimensions of Israel

In celebration of Israel's 70th year of independence, Hebrew College's [Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education](#) will be holding a conference October 28-31 focusing on the multiple dimensions of Israel, including its diverse people, spirit of innovation, Hebrew language, Israeli literature, culture, nature and much more. The conference is designed to expand educators' and professionals' expand their knowledge about Israel and help them develop skills to share their learning with students and families. Each day of the conference will be dedicated to different topics and audiences.

The schedule for the four-day conference includes:

- **Sunday, October 28 (1:30-4:00pm) - Hebrew & Israel: The Environment as a Teacher.** Educational visit to the Wonder of Learning Exhibit at Wheelock/Boston University with Rachel Raz, Chair of the conference and Director of the Early Childhood Institute.
- **Monday, October 29 (9:00-4:00pm) - The Multiple Dimensions of Israel.** Understanding and Teaching Israel - for educators and professionals teaching all ages.
- **Tuesday, October 30 (8:30am - 3:30pm) - Israel in Early Education.** For educators and professionals working with children ages infant to 8 years and their families.
- **Wednesday, October 31 - Best Practices: Learning from the Field.** Educational site visits to Gann Academy, JCDS, SSDS, Temple Israel, Temple Beth El and more. See how Israel can be incorporated into educational settings in the local area.

The conference is partially funded by CJP and the Harold Grinspoon Foundation. For additional information and questions, contact Linna Ettinger, Conference Coordinator at lettinger@hebrewcollege.edu

Learn More & Register



Celebrating Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld

P R E S I D E N T I A L
I N S T A L L A T I O N
C E R E M O N Y
H E B R E W C O L L E G E

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

WWW.HEBREWCOLLEGE.EDU/INSTALLATION



Please join us for this special event at
Temple Emanuel, 385 Ward Street, Newton, Massachusetts.

Visit the installation website and reserve your seat now.

This is free event, though due to space limitations, advance registration will be required
for entry. Thank you for your cooperation.

*Help us celebrate the installation of Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld by joining the inaugural
Shabbat Table or President's Council or by making a gift of any amount that is meaningful to
you.*

Learn more about giving opportunities.

Reserve Tickets

Notable & Quotable

Dr. Keren McGinity, Director of Hebrew College's [Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement program](#) will be speaking on a Religious News Association panel entitled, #MeToo in Sacred Spaces tomorrow at 10 am EST. The panel will be livestreamed on the Association's [Facebook page](#).

[Rabbinical School](#) Rector Rabbi Arthur Green was named one of 12 "Master Builders" by [Bayit: Your Jewish Home](#) as "leading academician, Art's strategic vision has shaped countless clergy building the future of Judaism."

Sights & Sounds



Rabbinical students enjoy class outside before the break for the *haggim*.

70 Faces of Torah



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

Hypocrisy, Boundaries, and the Mitzvah of Part-time Piety

The Days of Remembrance

By Rabbi Micha'el Rosenberg
Assistant Professor of Rabbinics
Rabbinical School of Hebrew College



Years ago, while walking back to my college dorm room from *Kol Nidrei* services, I was shocked to hear my roommate—fresh off all of the confessions and regret that are baked into the Yom Kippur liturgy—

use a word not fit to print in the virtual pages of *Seventy Faces*. With all the self-righteousness of a 20-year old, I called him out on it: “It’s Yom Kippur night! Is this how you want God to see you on the day you’re being judged?” My roommate responded: “Do you plan on ceasing any and all use of four-letter words after Yom Kippur? Or is it just a temporary piety for these 24 hours? Because if the latter, it’s hypocrisy. Either you think using that language is wrong, in which case you should quit, or you think it’s fine, in which case it’s no more problematic today than tomorrow.”

His rebuke struck home, and I became a vehement opponent of part-time piety, especially of the kind that some Jews would take on around the High Holidays. I was therefore stunned when, years later, I came across a passage in the classic code of law, the *Shulhan Arukh*, that seemed to endorse just such hypocrisy. The background to the passage is a bit complex, but it goes roughly like this: The Mishnah, a third-century C.E. Rabbinic document, forbids the consumption of bread baked by gentiles. Now, I imagine that many readers of this blog are offended by this clear attempt to draw boundaries between Jew and gentile, and I’ll come back to that, but it’s worth noting that already in the Talmud, there is pushback on this law. By the time we get to the medieval period, the prohibition on eating such bread was severely weakened, at least in Ashkenazi lands, and some commentators seem to say that it need not be observed at all. So by the time we get to the composition of the *Shulhan Arukh*, there are large numbers of the Jewish people who, for whatever reason, were unconcerned with the Mishnah’s prohibition on gentile-baked bread.

Read More



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