



HEBREW COLLEGE 2020 ANNUAL IMPACT REPORT

Resilience and Imagination



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Mazel tov on this special day of your graduation,



LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear friends,

It was about a year ago that our world turned upside down.

I have been awed over these last months by your dedication, compassion, resilience, and imagination in the face of this difficult and unsettling time. I have been awed by the creative collaborations that have continued to put **learning and community** at the center of our sacred mission—in ways that are both enduring, and ever-new.

One of the great spiritual challenges of this time has been remembering, in the face of the pandemic-induced separation that has kept us physically apart, that we are not alone. That we are part of something larger. We know this, but we so easily forget. We get caught up in the things that divide us, the things that make us feel isolated—even when we are not in the midst of a pandemic.

We are about to celebrate the beginning of the Hebrew month of Adar. The Gemara teaches (in *Bavli Ta'anit 29)—Mi she'nichnas Adar, marbim b'simcha*. From the beginning of Adar we increase joy. The Hasidic master, the Yismach Yisrael, asks: "How do we enter the gates of this joy?" His answer: "We do this by loving our friends, and by uniting with the Children of Israel."

For the Yismach Yisrael, we are most vulnerable when "our hearts are alienated from each other." This is why, he teaches, at the beginning of the month of Adar, we recall the Torah's obligation for each and every member of the community to bring a required donation of half a shekel. Why a half shekel? To remind us that we need each other. That, only together, do we constitute a complete vessel. "The point of the *half* shekel," suggests the Yismach Yisrael, "is to make you consider this, and to do everything you can to develop this awareness: to love your friends like yourself."

Building community, building anything that matters, requires the capacity to make room for others—for different experiences, different voices and perspectives, different roles, and different gifts. It reminds that we are each only part of a larger life-giving whole.

This year's Annual Impact Report is a celebration of resilience and imagination, and it is also a celebration of the spirit of partnership that has made all of this possible.

From the bottom of my heart, thank you for your partnership and shared vision. While this Annual Impact Report takes a look back at the year that has past, I hope it will also help us turn toward the future, with the gates of our hearts open to joy.

B'yedidut u'v'simcha (in friendship and in joy),

SHARON COHEN ANISFELD President, Hebrew College

Highlights of the Year



RABBINICAL SCHOOL CLASS OF 2019 HELPS FUND SCHOLARSHIP

The Rabbinical School Class of 2019 raised more than \$25,000 for a scholarship for an incoming Hebrew College student—\$5,000 more than their goal—and \$22,000 in additional funds for Hebrew College, thanks to gifts from students, faculty, staff, alumni, friends, and family. They solicited these gifts using a witty fundraising video in which Rabbi Ilana Zietman offered to choreograph a dance, Rabbi Jevin Eagle promised to help with taxes, Rabbi Hayley Goldstein offered a soulful *niggun* serenade, Rabbi Misha Clebenar offered a guest spot on his podcast, and Rabbi Shuki Zehavi offered a freshly "shected" kosher chicken if you gave a gift toward their campaign.

REIMAGINED RABBINICAL YEAR-IN-ISRAEL PROGRAM

Hebrew College launched a new year-in-Israel program for thirdyear rabbinical students called *Balevav*, or "In the heart," to better speak to the contemporary realities of Israeli society and the North American rabbinate. Thanks to a generous gift from the San Francisco-based Germanacos Foundation, the program connects students with Israeli teachers, mentors, peers, communities, and organizations so they have the opportunity to develop relationships while abroad and learn about the rich intellectual, spiritual, and cultural creativity of Israeli society. The program also encourages students to take advantage of learning opportunities that are uniquely available to them while living in Israel. The program was on hold in Academic Year 2020-2021 due to the pandemic, but will resume in 2021-2022 if it is safe to travel again.



January 2020



OPENING HEARTS AND MINDS TO OUR "WORLD HOUSE"

Just after Martin Luther King, Jr. Day 2020, rabbinical and cantorial students in their preparatory year (Mekorot) at Hebrew College gathered on campus for a special three-day seminar entitled "From Diversity to Pluralism," taught by Hebrew College President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld and Rabbi Or Rose, Director of the Miller Center for Interreligious Learning and Leadership. Second-year students (Shanah Bet) spent the week in an introductory course on Islam for Jewish leaders led by Imam Taymullah Abdur-Rahman, a chaplain with the Massachusetts Department of Correction and former imam at Harvard University and Northeastern University. And first-year students (Shanah Aleph) met at Boston University's historic Marsh Chapel with Rev. Soren Hessler, Director of Graduate Academic Services at Drew University, who previously worked at the Miller Center, for a seminar entitled "Introduction to Christianity: Histories, Doctrines, and Practice." "Coming immediately after MLK Day, these seminars feel like a fitting way to honor Dr. King's legacy as a justice seeker and bridge-builder," said Rabbi Rose. "Dr. King spoke of the need to understand the interconnection and interdependence of humankind, living in what he described as a 'world-house.' As emerging Jewish leaders, our students will be called upon to navigate complex questions of universality and particularity within the many rooms of our shared world-house."



TACKLING ECONOMIC JUSTICE

At the Hebrew College Winter Seminar "What Do We Owe Each Other: Jewish Conversations on Equality and the Challenges of a Just Society," students, faculty, and alumni examined what we can do about economic injustice and what Judaism might have to say about these questions in a way that speaks meaningfully to our own time. "These topics are complex and often entail competing value claims; there are no obvious answers," said Dean of Graduate Leadership

Programs Rabbi Dan Judson, who studies the historical intersection of Judaism and economics. "They beg the question: What can we do? Jewish tradition has wisdom around what a just economy should look like, but Judaism doesn't speak in a single voice. This seminar is a way of trying to respond to real questions that society is grappling with and understanding that Jewish tradition has something to teach us in a nuanced way about these issues."

"SEEING TORAH": HEBREW COLLEGE'S INAUGURAL ARTS COMMITTEE

Hebrew College Trustees Deborah Feinstein and Susan Schechter, along with Dorothea Buckler, Bette Ann Libby, and Joshua Meyer launched a new Hebrew College Art Committee, which will select various artists whose work focuses on creative dialogue with Jewish texts for display in at Hebrew College. The first exhibit, "Seeing Torah," a visual diary documenting artist Anita Rabinoff-Goldman's study and artistic response to each of the 54 portions of the Torah over the cycle of a single Jewish year, was temporarily postponed due to the pandemic. The second exhibit, "Faith in Isolation," curated by photographer Brenda Bancel, is planned for spring 2021. "Everybody has different ways of learning and different ways of interpreting knowledge," said Feinstein, a former museum director, educator and curator. "We want to enable artists to share their personal expressions of Jewish texts, and to make those expressions available to the wider public, offering the community a way of learning Torah visually, as well as textually."



YOM IYYUN: TEEN MENTAL HEALTH

In February 2020, Hebrew College's Ordination programs held a *Yom lyyun* on Teen Mental Health with Support from the Ruderman Synagogue Inclusion Project – a partnership between the The Ruderman Family Foundation and Combined Jewish Philanthropies. The program featured speakers from the The Brookline Center for Community Mental Health and True North Wilderness Program, a comprehensive therapy program for teenagers suffering from mental health and/or substance abuse problems, as well a as panel of rabbis speaking about teen mental health and pastoral care, and 'This is My Brave,'' a storytelling collective of individuals who share their stories of mental illness.



NEW HEBREW COLLEGE PASSOVER COMPANION HONORS PROFESSOR JUDITH KATES

The Hebrew College Passover Companion, published in March 2020, emerged out of a desire to honor Dr. Judith Kates, a longtime Hebrew College faculty member and scholar who retired several years ago. Kates stands among the pioneers of contemporary Jewish women reclaiming their Jewish literary heritage by bringing a feminist perspective to the interpretation of classical Jewish texts. Edited by Kates' colleagues Hebrew College faculty members Rachel Adelman and Jane L. Kanarek, and Jewish Women's Archive founder Gail Twersky Reimer, The Companion offers a pathway into another of our central ritual moments, the Passover seder. "Judith has been such a feminist pioneer in so many area of her life, and we really wanted to honor her in print," said Hebrew College Associate Dean for Academic Development and Advising and Professor of Rabbinics Jane Kanarek, one of the co-editors of the new Companion. "Passover is such a central ritual at Judith's home, and feminism is so central to her seder, that we decided to create a Passover Companion in her honor. We wanted to do something that actually fit who Judith is as a teacher and as a scholar. Judith is a teacher of Torah and Torah is meant to be shared."

LEADERSHIP, LEARNING, AND LOVE

"Hebrew College is about leadership and learning, but it's also about a commitment to pluralism, to each other, and beyond, which is a commitment rooted in love," said Rabbi Sonia Saltzman, Rabbinical School alumna and co-chair of the Hebrew College spring 2020 event, "Leadership, Learning, and Love." When it became clear that we would not be able to gather in person for our event due to the global pandemic, Hebrew College quickly transformed our plans for an evening of beautiful music and uplifting ideas into three digital offerings in March and April as well as an online event on April 29 honoring esteemed mentor and teacher Rabbi Rim Meirowitz that was attended by more than 460 people. The online celebration, which raised \$95,130 in honor of Rim, featured: Rabbi Salzman; Rabbi Meirowitz; Hebrew College President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld; CJP President & CEO Rabbi Marc Baker; Hebrew College Chair of the Board Andy Offit; and rabbinical and cantorial students and alumni. We also sent three e-newsletters filled with spiritual nourishment in the form of online written, video, and audio digital offerings. Newsletter themes included 'Let Us Sing a New Song!', 'Caring for One Another,' and 'Tending to Hope.'



TEEN LEARNING RENAISSANCE AT HEBREW COLLEGE

What do teens want? To make their own choices. So Hebrew College's new Director of Prozdor and Teen Initiatives, Rabbi Laura Bellows `18, got to work in winter 2020 to offer those choices. Bellows, who returned to Hebrew College in fall 2019, made plans to enhance Prozdor, Hebrew College's signature teen learning program, with a new Prozdor Immersives program for teens who want a deep dive into experiential Jewish learning but cannot make a weekly commitment to attend regular Prozdor. Several new and continuing programs allow teens to choose experiences that fit their unique passions, backgrounds, and schedules. These include the Jewish Teen Foundation of Greater Boston of Hebrew College, under the leadership of Leah Goldstein, which offers teen leadership, values-driven learning, collaboration, and fundraising; Teen Beit Midrash of Hebrew College, under the leadership of Rabba Claudia Marbach, which brings teens together weekly to explore the big questions and issues of today through Talmud; and Gesher Israel of Hebrew College, where teens meet every few weeks to discuss Israeli culture and Jewish identity, with teens from the Reali School in Haifa. "We talked to parents and teens about how to best serve young Jews in their Jewish learning and growth," said Rabbi Bellows. "We are excited to offer teens what they asked for: a robust menu of diverse learning options, led by dynamic and warm faculty, scholars, and practitioners, where teens can craft their own Jewish learning experiences and explore."

CELEBRATING OUR GRADUATES ONLINE

In June, more than 600 people watched ceremonies on Zoom and YouTube as our 30 graduating rabbis, cantors, and Jewish educators were showered with blessings of hope, love, and connection via live chats. Several Hebrew College faculty and staff members also surprised graduates with blessings that they recorded on their phones from their living rooms and backyards. We celebrated our first virtual Cake Day in early May, where current rabbinical and cantorial students offered blessings to the 2020 ordainees. In addition, Hebrew College held Zoom ceremonies for the 48 adults who completed Me'ah Classic, a two-year, 100-hour learning experience supported by CJP, and the high schoolers from 13 high schools and 12 congregations who graduated from Prozdor, joining an alumni community of more than 5,000. "Please remember it is not just Zoom that allows us to stay connected when we're physically apart. It is imagination. It is imagination that allows us to inhabit worlds outside of our own. That allows the voices on the pages of our holy texts to mingle with the voices around the tables of our Beit Midrash. That allows us to pray to a God we can't see or touch. That allows us to work for a world of dignity for all people," said Hebrew College President Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld.

Impact Stories









Featuring Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld and Alicia Ostriker

hebrewcollege.edu/podcas

TORAH FOR THE MOMENT

When the world changed last spring due to COVID-19, Hebrew College students, faculty, and staff not only continued to share their creativity, compassion, and knowledge with the greater Boston Jewish community, but also expanded their spiritual leadership and service in and beyond Boston through online offerings. While President Anisfeld provided frequent updates as the landscape kept changing, Hebrew College alumni, faculty, and students used their creativity to create artwork, write "Torah for the Moment," and speak words of leadership, learning, and love, all shared with the greater Jewish community via the College's website, social media channels, and e-newsletters.

Thanks to a generous gift from Hebrew College Trustee Tara Mohr and Eric Ries, Hebrew College began work on the first season of our *Speaking Torah* podcast, with guests Rabbi Gray Myrseth `18, Yeshiva University Professor Joy Ladin, Hebrew College Professor Rabbi Jordan Schuster `18, feminist poet Alicia Ostriker, and President Anisfeld. The podcast, which launched in September 2020 on Apple Podcasts, Stitcher, Spotify, YouTube, and other podcast sites, features host Rabbi Jeffrey Summit, director of the Hebrew College Innovation Lab, and music by Hebrew College alumni and students. The second season will drop in winter 2021.

TEACHING IN THE MOMENT

As colleges and universities across the country moved to remote learning, Hebrew College faculty and staff were ready to make the shift. In just two weeks, all Hebrew College graduate leadership and community learning adult and teen classes moved online. This meant our faculty could reach learners from all over the country—so when demand for community education courses grew, two generous donors made summer online community learning classes a reality. Summer classes filled quickly, including a special Me'ah downtown learning group, with hosts Will Danoff and Jason Weiner.

Rabbi Or Rose, Director of the Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership at Hebrew College, enlisted long-time interfaith colleague Rev. Paul Brandeis Raushenbush, Senior Advisor at Interfaith Youth Core (IFYC), to create "PsalmSeason," an 18-week interreligious response to the unfolding global pandemic and upheaval over social injustice centered around the shared religious text of The Psalms. The project kicked off with an online concert on June 8 featuring 18 performers from David Broza to Sweet Honey in the Rock (Sweet Honey member pictured below), followed by the launch of the PsalmSeason digital platform. The platform provided reflections that addressed the feelings of sadness, shock, dislocation, and fear brought on by the pandemic and social upheaval, and provided solace, strength, and hope for a better future. The project reached thousands of people across the world through its website at ifyc.org/psalmseason, the YouTube concert, weekly Miller Center PsalmSeason Digest e-newsletters, and robust social media—providing much-needed comfort and connection to interreligious communities across the country and globe.

The Miller Center and Hebrew College's Teen Learning programs also continued to empower Greater Boston teens to make a difference in their communities. The interreligious center made plans to launch the Hebrew College Dignity Project to train and inspire high schoolers as interreligious and cross-cultural leaders. Down the hall, Hebrew College's Jewish Teen Foundation of Greater Boston helped nearly 60 teens learn about professional philanthropy, civic leadership, collective giving, and grant-making through a Jewish lens so they could allocate grants for causes they chose to support. The teens ultimately donated \$58,000 in grants to eight organizations focused on education inequality, substance use disorder, environmental justice, and gun violence.





SPIRITUALITY IN THE MOMENT

When the pandemic hit, rabbinical student Shani Rosenbaum decided to connect with communities through a shared passion for music. Shani launched a 30-minute *Niggun* Seminar, which she co-hosted with rabbinical student, musician, and composer Jackson Mercer each week on Zoom, YouTube, and JewishLive. org. A Hasidic tradition, *niggunim* are meant as mystical prayers, sacred practices, a path to deepen the soul, expand the spirit, and embrace the divine. Through the online seminar, listeners learned about different *niggunim* and connected with each other through song. "We don't really have the words to say what it is we're going through. Wordless melodies are particularly powerful, especially at a moment where we're at a loss for words. Singing can bring us joy

COMFORT IN THE MOMENT

For some ordination students, serving the Jewish community meant being "on the ground" where they were needed most. When the Rabbinical School adjusted the course schedule March 2020 to allow students more time for community service, some students leapt at the opportunity to do pastoral work. Some volunteered to work on the CJP

"Warm Line," while others volunteered at hospitals, senior care facilities, and in other medical settings. Rabbinical and cantorial alumni offered ongoing support to their congregants and memberships throughout the pandemic. Alumni chaplains like Rabbi Judi Ehrlich `08 and Rabbi Jim Morgan `08 of Hebrew SeniorLife in Massachusetts spent hours on the phone accompanying patients and families through the challenges of the virus—and the difficulty of being separated when loved ones were sick.

As the unprecedented 2019-2020 academic year came to a close, faculty and staff were planning summer programs to bring comfort and healing to the community. Chaplain Rabbi Suzanne Offit `09 worked with

and lift us," said Shani. "The goal of the seminar was for people to press pause within existing frameworks of their lives, to take a half hour to sing a little bit."

She added, "One of the biggest losses for people who want to connect to the community musically during COVID is that suddenly there aren't great frameworks to do that. Singing over Zoom is really hard, and prayer communities had to adjust. Participants have reached out to me to tell me how they 'needed this,' and that they felt more relaxed and joyous after just half an hour of singing together."



Hebrew College in June to create a summer online event, co-sponsored by CJP and several other Boston-area community organizations, called "A Time to Mourn: Grieving Together In the Time of COVID" for the Greater Boston community to mourn those lost during the COVID pandemic. As of the date of this publication, the event video has more than 2,400 views.



INNOVATING IN THE MOMENT

After months of planning innovative educational, spiritual, social justice, and interfaith projects to address needs of the Greater Boston Jewish community, students in the Hebrew College Innovation Lab-a new initiative launched in fall 2019 and directed by Rabbi Jeffrey Summitfound themselves faced with a hands-on innovation challenge: how to innovate their projects in a new and extraordinary moment. Students quickly responded with resilience-bringing joy, music, creativity, and connection to virtual communities. A day-of-study about interfaith and mixed-heritage relationships moved online. A weekend-long retreat about spirituality and social justice became a day-long Zoom conference. A pluralistic community of musicians and songwriters was challenged to collaborate virtually. And those were just three of the many projects. "Students in the Innovation Lab were implementing their projects just when the world as we knew it was changing profoundly: quarantine, isolation, the inability for the community to meet face to face," said Rabbi Summit. "They reconceptualized their projects thoughtfully and creatively, engaging people in living Jewish practice in ways that were value-added to people's lives and experience."

Rabbinical student Yaakov Ginsberg-Schreck founded the Hebrew College Breath Lab in February to help people hit pause on the day, unwind, breathe, and recharge—Jewishly. Together with Evelyn Punch, a seasoned yoga teacher with a background in biochemistry and neuroscience, he offered anatomy-based movement classes that combine yoga and *kavannah*/text study sessions for personal wellbeing and Divine connection.

When the Breath Lab moved online in March 2020, his effort had an even greater impact. He started running weekly sessions for Temple Israel of Boston, and teamed up with IKAR in Los Angeles and other organizations to reach individuals and communities across the country. "We have the power to tune out of fight-or-flight and genuinely ground ourselves," said Ginsberg-Schreck. "Ranging from biblical to rabbinic to *kabbalistic* and *chasidic* sources, the breath and body are intimately

tied to the quality of spiritual well-being. In destabilizing times like these, it's through tuning into our inner stability and balance that we can reach equilibrium, clarity, and envision a brighter future."

And our alumni continued to inspire communities around the world creatively and spiritually through innovative music and prayer leadership, the arts, and programming. Thanks to a generous donor gift, we were able to create videos highlighting the ways in which the rabbinical school is teaching rabbis to use music creatively in their work. Videos featuring alumni Rabbi Jessica Kate Meyer `14, Rabbi/Chazzan at The Kitchen in San Francisco, and Rabbi David Fainsilber `14, Rabbi at the Jewish Community of Greater Stowe in Stowe, VT, helped inspire a number of prospective students to choose Hebrew College as a place to pursue their interests in music and spirituality. This was one of the factors that made the entering class of fall 2020 our largest-ever incoming ordination class.

In spring 2019, Rabbi Adina Allen`14, co-founder and co-creator of The Jewish Studio Project in Berkeley, CA, launched a new Creative Fellowship thanks to generous support from The Germanacos Foundation, training participants to become facilitators and practitioners for JSP Arts programs.

And in the area of sustainability innovation, Rabbi Nate DeGroot`16, spiritual & program director at Hazon Detroit, the Jewish lab for sustainability, helped the metro Detroit Jewish community reconnect with their own earth-based Jewish roots, while reinvesting in their historic relationship with the Detroit community through its transformative, Black-led food and environmental justice work.



Looking Forward

This year, we began to implement our Strategic Plan, building on the College's distinctive strengths to (1) create an integrated vision for graduate programs, with tracks preparing rabbis, cantors, and educators; (2) create an integrated vision for community education programs, with initiatives serving youth, adults, and professionals; (3) create meaningful constructs for synergy between the graduate and community programs to support the development of our graduate students as Jewish leaders and support the community of Jewish learners throughout Greater Boston; (4) search for a shared campus and pursue opportunities for partnerships to amplify and enhance communal impact; and (5) develop a new business model to better focus resources on teaching, learning, and communal impact. Read the Strategic Plan at hebrewcollege.edu/strategic-plan.

While this work is ongoing, by fall 2020 we are pleased to report these major accomplishments toward the College's implementation goals:

- We have identified a new shared campus home with community partners and launched "Branching Out, Building Together: A Capital Campaign for Hebrew College and a Ground-Breaking Vision for a Shared Campus," co-chaired by Beverly Bavly, Nancy Kaplan Belsky, Andy Offit, Susan Schechter, Myra Snyder, and Diane Troderman.
- We have integrated the MJEd, Jewish Studies, rabbinical, and cantorial programs into a single graduate school, with Rabbi Dan Judson as the Dean of Graduate Leadership Programs.
- We have combined youth, adult, professional development, and interfaith programs under new Vice President of Community Education Dr. Susie Tanchel.
- We have created a new, centralized Office of Student Services to support students.
- We have recruited one of the largest Rabbinical School classes in Hebrew College history.
- We have eliminated silos, reduced overhead costs, and achieved a balanced budget.

OUR NEW HOME

As we look forward, we are excited to have identified our new home in a shared campus that will strengthen and expand the vision of the College in an integrated model combining rigorous Jewish learning, community engagement and service, and opportunities for mentorship and training.

In December 2022, immediately following our Centennial year, we will relocate to Washington Street in Newton, where we will join with Temple Reyim, the Jewish Arts Collaborative, Keshet, Jewish Women's Archive, Kesher Newton Afterschool Program, the Massachusetts Board of Rabbis, Mayyim Hayim Community Mikveh, Camp Yavneh, and Zamir Chorale and others to create an interdisciplinary hub of Jewish learning, spirituality, and innovation. We are enlivened by this vision of deep connection and collaboration, enabling us to better serve the Jewish people and the world by branching out and building together. This dynamic shared campus will:

- Establish a national model for Jewish communal sustainability, creativity, and growth
- Create a vibrant living laboratory for spiritual and educational leadership and experimentation
- Deepen local and national impact through creative programmatic collaborations
- · Promote the financial health of mission-aligned partners, with ongoing opportunities for cost reduction and resource optimization
- Preserve the warmth of the learning community we have cultivated, while creating pioneering opportunities for us to branch out and grow





HEBREW COLLEGE CLASSROOM WING



BEIT MIDRASH



CELEBRATING RABBI ALLAN LEHMANN

On December 5, 2019, the Hebrew College community marked Rabbi Lehmann's 70th birthday with a torah study and celebration-and we are grateful to the many generous donors who showed their appreciation and support by making gifts to support Rabbinical School scholarships in Rabbi Lehmann's honor. Rabbi Lehmann has been co-director of Hebrew College's Beit Midrash, along with Rabbi Shayna Rhodes `08, for 10 years. A former congregational and Hillel rabbi, he has been at Hebrew College for 13 years, and also serves as associate dean of the Rabbinical School, teaches several courses, and coordinates the school's spiritual direction program.

"Seventy-year-old people often retire, but I have no desire to. I love my work and I love Hebrew College," said Rabbi Lehmann. "Think about how many people on this planet get to do work that they care about, that they find meaningful, that they find interesting, that they're drawn to. I have been very, very privileged to do what I love, and now to be able to work with people who are exploring that as their work for their lives."

Faculty Stories

Awards, honors, and achievements by Hebrew College faculty and staff

RABBI ART GREEN'S A NEW HASIDISM

Rabbi Green, a renowned Jewish scholar and leading expert on Neo-Hasidism who founded the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College, produced an unprecedented new two-volume work on the history and future of this approach, *A New Hasidism: Roots* and *A New Hasidism: Branches*, co-authored with his student Stanford Professor Dr. Ariel Mayse. Neo-Hasidism applies the Hasidic masters' spiritual insights—of God's presence everywhere, of seeking the magnificent within the everyday, in doing all things with love and joy, uplifting all of life to become a vehicle of God's service—to contemporary Judaism, as practiced by men and women who do not live within the strictly bounded world of the Hasidic community. Hebrew College honored this work with a public day of study, reflection, and celebration on November 3, 2020. Similar events were held in New York City and California.

In addition to his new book, for the first time, Rabbi Green traveled to Ukraine in summer 2019 to visit the graves of the Baal Shem Tov, or "Master of the Good Name," the founding father of Hasidism, and his disciples. He brought with him students and friends, including Hebrew College professors Rabbi Ebn Leader, Rabbi Allan Lehmann, and Rabbi Jordan Schuster `18, and Hebrew College alumni Rabbi Lee Moore `10, Rabbi Getzel Davis `13, and Rabbi Elie Lehmann `17; as well as Ariel Mayse.



FACULTY PUBLICATIONS

From Tiberias, With Love: A Collection of Tiberian Hasidism, volume I: Rabbi Menachem Mendel of Vitebsk, edited by Aubrey Glazer and Nehemia Polen, Fons Vitae Press, 2020. The second volume in the series, *From Tiberias, With Love: A Collection of Tiberian Hasidism, volume 2: Rabbi Abraham ha-Kohen of Kalisk,* edited by Aubrey Glazer and Nehemia Polen, Academic Studies Press, 2020.

A New Hasidism: Roots and A New Hasidism: Branches by Rabbi Arthur Green (Editor), Ariel Evan Mayse (Editor), University of Nebraska Press, 2019.

Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi: Essential Teachings by Rabbi Or N. Rose (Editor), Netanel Miles-Yépez (Editor), Orbis Books, 2020.

Judaism for the World: Reflections on God, Life and Love by Rabbi Arthur Green, Yale University Press, 2020.

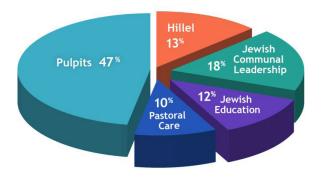


Did You Know?

IN GREATER BOSTON, DID YOU KNOW THAT . . .

- **36 congregations in Greater Boston** are served by Hebrew College students and alumni.
- Jewish life on every major campus in New England has been invigorated by the leadership of a Hebrew College rabbi or rabbinic intern—including Boston College, Boston University, Brandeis, Brown, Bryant University, Harvard, MIT, Northeastern University, Tufts, UMass Amherst, and University of Rhode Island.
- Hebrew College rabbis serve as chaplains in health care settings and senior housing facilities throughout Greater Boston.
- **Every local Jewish day school** draws on the talent of Hebrew College rabbis and educators.
- **70 current rabbinic and cantorial students serve locally in a wide variety of internships**, sharing their teaching, prayer leadership, pastoral care, communitybuilding skills, passion for social justice, and entrepreneurial spirit across the country and around the world.

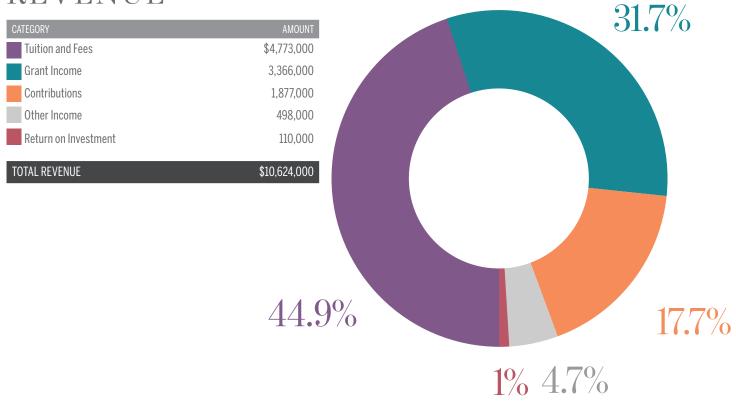
How Our Alumni Serve



ACROSS THE COUNTRY AND AROUND THE WORLD . . .

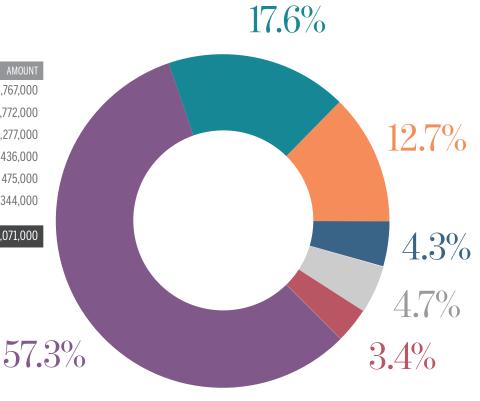
- **Organizations and communities being served by our alumni are growing and thriving** in Alabama, California, Colorado, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Illinois, Indiana, Louisiana, Maine, Maryland, Massachusetts, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, North Carolina, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, Texas, Vermont, Virginia, Washington, and Washington D.C.
- **Global communities** in Australia, Brazil, Canada, Chile, England, and Israel are being invigorated by our alumni and by their vision of vibrant, pluralistic Jewish life infused with Torah, spirituality, and creativity.
- Hebrew College students and alumni are playing leadership roles in innovative national organizations like BASE Hillel, CLAL: National Center for Learning and Leadership, the Emergent Synagogue Network, Machon Hadar, the Shalom Hartman Institute, Hazon, Keshet, Jewish Studio Project, Lippman-Kanfer Foundation for Living Torah, Mayyim Hayyim Living Waters Community Mikveh and Education Center, the Schusterman Fellowship, Svara: A Traditionally Radical Yeshiva, T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights, and more.
- The adult learning programs we have created in collaboration with Combined Jewish Philanthropies have created a vibrant culture of Jewish learning in Greater Boston, and nurtured one of the most literate Jewish communities in North America, with 2,500 adult learners participating in our classes last year alone.
- **The Miller Center for Interreligious Learning and Leadership** does groundbreaking work with local teens, undergraduates, and young professionals, and is a national thought leader in the field of interreligious learning and engagement—promoting a more just, compassionate, and sustainable world through study, dialogue, and joint action.
- **The Hebrew College Innovation Lab** is an incubator for Hebrew College students and alumni to design and implement creative projects for the wider community, in which participants receive generous seed grants as well as expert mentorship, training, and support.

REVENUE



EXPENSES

CATEGORY	AMOUNT
Instruction	\$5,767,000
Institutional Support	1,772,000
Student Financial Aid	1,277,000
Academic Support	436,000
Institutional Advancement	475,000
Student Services	344,000
TOTAL EXPENSES	\$10,071,000



MULTI-YEAR GRANTS

The **E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation** provided a grant in support of an integrated approach to training in chaplaincy, counseling and pastoral care for rabbinical and cantorial students.



The Chleck Family Foundation established the Chleck Family Scholarship Program, providing scholarship support for students in the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College. The Foundation also provided funding in support of the College's online Hebrew language program.

DOROT FOUNDATION

The Dorot Foundation provided funding for Social Action and Young Adult Programming through the Open Circle Jewish Learning Community Education programs.

Germanacos Foundation **The Germanacos Foundation** established a grant for Hebrew College's Balevav: Year in Israel Program.* **Miller Center:** Continuation of multi-year grant-funded programming with clergy, academics, and communal leaders, as well as graduate students and seminarians for local and national initiatives, using a combination of in-person and online educational tools, many of which were adapted in response to the pandemic. Support included the second of a three-year grant from the Arthur Vining Davis Foundations for work with high school students and undergraduate students from 12 area colleges and universities.

CARES ACT FUNDING RECEIVED DURING FY'20:

HEERF Grants: Grants received from the Higher Education Emergency Relief Fund provided direct financial relief to full time students, subsidized the costs of providing enhanced institutional broadband capacity, and funded Zoom licenses for delivery of virtual instruction, during a pandemic environment.

PPP Loan/Conditional Grant: Funds received from the Paycheck Protection Program ensured continuity of employment for college faculty and staff, as well as subsidized utility costs of operations, during a pandemic environment, with conversion to grant status subject to a loan forgiveness application process to be subsequently undertaken in FY'21.

THANK YOU TO OUR DONORS

We deeply appreciate our donors, whose steadfast support sustains Hebrew College. Your commitment to the institution and your presence in our community are integral to our sacred work. With gratitude, we acknowledge our donors who have made a gift from July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

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"I'm very active both in the Jewish and non-Jewish worlds, and I wanted to pass that down to the next generation. Modeling philanthropy is incredibly important, whether it's writing a check or learning about cause areas that are important to you, and I wanted my kids to see philanthropy in action, from start to finish."

- Jeffrey Drucker, JTFGB parent

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"Ironically, completing my course completely online was of benefit to us because with such a young infant at home being able to leave for an hour and a half would be impossible. But being able to nurse, change her diaper and attend to her infant during this class while all being online made it totally possible to attend."

- Alon Neidich, Parenting Through a Jewish Lens student

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"I liked (learning via Zoom) a lot, and I felt like the participants became sort of a support group, that could possibly meet in the future." - *Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens student*

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"When Hebrew College transitioned to online classes at the beginning of the pandemic, I was devastated not knowing when I would be together again with my friends and teachers. That same community of dedicated learners and teachers that was so hard to leave, however, also made the prolonged transition to online learning a positive experience. I credit the personal phone calls that I have had with professors, the daily check-in opportunities during class, the continued helpful feedback in courses, and the creativity of our administrators with helping me to navigate this difficult time in the world. While I would much rather be learning on campus right now, I take tremendous comfort knowing that Hebrew College has done so much to bridge the distance by bringing the beit midrash and the classroom close to me in a way that feels very socially connected while physically distant." - Eric Feld, Rabbinical student

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"I really enjoyed the class! I was surprised by how smooth the breakout sessions were . . . they felt so much like our work in pairs. I'm looking forward to next week!" - Me'ah student

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