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NEWS & VIEWS

February 22, 2018 | 7 Adar 5778



Happy Purim!

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

- [Building Bridges Through Study & Action](#)
- [Engage with Open Circle Jewish Learning](#)
- [Humans of Hebrew College](#)
- [Sights & Sounds | Notable & Quotable](#)
- [Events | Blogs](#)



Building Bridges Through Study & Action

The cultivation of authentic personal and institutional relationships across lines of difference is core to the mission of the [Betty Ann Greenbaum Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership at Hebrew College](#). These relationships position the Miller Center to draw on scholars, educators, public intellectuals, and activists, across religious traditions, to create strategic partnerships, embark on co-teaching opportunities, initiate significant public discourse and contribute to the growing body of interreligious literature. Below are some of these initiatives.

Interfaith Learning

The Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership is pleased to be engaged in cooperative teaching relationships with Boston College School of Theology and Ministry, Boston University School of Theology, and Hellenic College Holy Cross Greek Orthodox School of Theology. This semester, Rabbi Or Rose, Director of the Miller Center, also teaches at Holy Cross on Tuesday evenings with Imam Taymullah Abdur-Rahman (right) and Rev. Emmanuel Clapsis.



Interfaith Publications

Look for the forthcoming release of “Words to Live By: Sacred Sources for Interreligious Engagement” by Orbis Books, co-edited by the Miller Center’s Rabbi Or Rose and Rev. Soren Hessler with Dr. Homayra Ziad of the Institute for Islamic, Christian, and Jewish Studies. The book will provide readers with the opportunity to engage with sacred texts from a variety of traditions (Muslim, Jewish, Christian, Hindu, Buddhist, and Humanist) which impel people toward interreligious engagement. Each chapter presents a text from a religious canon that inspires or guides an author’s work in the interreligious sphere. Authors also share the historical and literary contexts for the text and provide guiding questions for reflection and discussion.

Interfaith Discussions

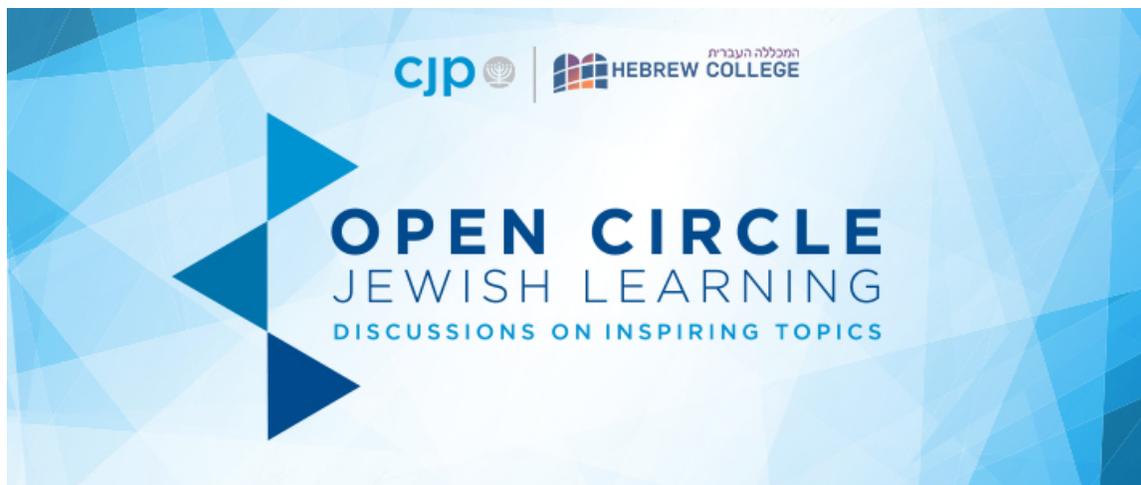
The Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership and the [Pluralism Project at Harvard University](#) are co-hosting a panel discussion on Monday, February 26 at 4 pm entitled "[Models of Interfaith Leadership in an Age of Polarization](#)." Join us in the Thompson Room at Harvard's Barker Center, 12 Quincy Street, Cambridge, for a compelling conversation with four interreligious thought leaders and activists:



- [Rabbi Or Rose](#), Director of The Miller Center
- [Professor Diana Eck](#) (right), Director, The Pluralism Project, Harvard University
- [Eboo Patel](#), Founder & President, Interfaith Youth Core
- [Dr. Jennifer Peace](#), Associate Professor of Interfaith Studies, Andover Newton Theological School

The Betty Ann Greenbaum Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership, was established through a generous gift from Dan Miller, a member of the Hebrew College Board of Trustees and husband of the late Betty Ann Greenbaum Miller (of blessed memory), MAJS`05.

(Pictured above: Panel discussion with Dr. Judith Rosenberg of the Jewish Women's Archive; Catherine Bell of Keshet; Megan Madison of Border Crossers; and Rabbinical student Ayalon Eliach at Hebrew College's 2018 Winter Seminar. "The seminar, entitled Religious Leadership and Public Life: Balancing Pluralism, Justice, and Personal Integrity," was co-sponsored by The Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership and the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College.)



iEngage: Israel's Milestones and their Meaning

Hebrew College and CJP are thrilled to announce our newest [Open Circle Jewish Learning](#) course offering: iEngage, a class that blends video instruction by some of the best scholars and thinkers in the world with welcoming, open discussion led by Rabbi Daniel Liben (right).



iEngage invites participants to an open and pluralistic discussion about issues of Jewish identity, peoplehood, ethics, and theology, as they relate to nationhood, land, sovereignty, Jerusalem, occupation, and moral red lines. This year's theme, "[Israel's Milestones and their Meanings](#)," explores the pivotal events of 1947 and 1967 - following the 1917 Balfour Declaration - as key moments when Zionism unleashed new thinking about the meaning of Jewishness for generations to come. In his [blog post](#), Rabbi Liben reflects on the transformative experience of teaching and learning with iEngage in previous years.

The class will meet at Hebrew College on Monday evenings on Mondays from 7:30-9 p.m. on March 12, 19, 26, April 9, 16, 30, and May 7, 14.

For information, please contact Betsy More at emore@hebrewcollege.edu or 617-559-8736.



Humans of Hebrew College #Humans HC



"Studying the writings of Hasidic masters with my beloved teachers, Rabbis Ebn Leader and Nehemia Polen, connected my own experience to its Jewish roots, and gave me the language with which to open a Jewish spiritual conversation with my students."

(Rabbi Jamie Kotler, Rab`16)

Learn more about [Rabbi Kotler](#), the [Rabbinical School of Hebrew College](#) and our [alumni](#). If you are interested in being featured as one of our #Humans, please contact webmaster@hebrewcollege.edu. You can also find Hebrew College alumni and students on the Hebrew College LinkedIn page. (Remember to update your LinkedIn profile!)



Sights & Sounds



President-Elect Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld (left) with Rabbinical School student **Lev Friedman** and his daughter **Rabbi Shoshana Meira Friedman, Rab`14**, at the announcement of the Linda Friedman Scholarship Fund on Feb. 14. The fund was founded by the Friedman family in memory of Lev's sister.

To learn more about establishing a scholarship fund, making a bequest, and other giving opportunities, please contact Hebrew College's Office of Advancement at 617.559.8764 or advancement@hebrewcollege.edu.



Notable & Quotable

[School of Jewish Music](#) Head of Vocal Arts, Cantor Lynn Torgove, Can`12, MAJS`11, is the Hebrew Language and Diction Coach for the Boston Symphony Orchestra's performances of Leonard Bernstein's Symphony No. 3, Kaddish on March 15-17 at Symphony Hall. The concerts are part of the Boston Symphony Orchestra's year-long Centennial Celebration of Leonard Bernstein. Cantor Torgove also will be working with the Tanglewood Festival Chorus and their Music Director, James Burton, and the Choir of St. Paul's, Harvard Square and their Music Director, John Robinson, on the choirs' pronunciation and understanding of the Kaddish text, which is sung in all three movements of the symphony.



Upcoming Events

Models of Interfaith Leadership in an Age of Polarization

Featuring Rabbi Or Rose

February 26 | 4 pm | Free

Barker Center, Harvard University

Co-sponsored by the [Miller Center of Interreligious Learning & Leadership](#) and the Pluralism Project at Harvard University
[Learn more](#)



Bernstein Birthday Bash!

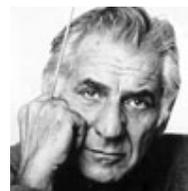
Concert featuring Kol Arev

March 22

7:30 pm | Free

Berenson Hall

Hebrew College



CEO Forum with Leonard Schlesinger

April 10

7:30 am | Free

Hebrew College

Includes breakfast

[Learn more and register](#)



The Tales of Rabbi Nahman

with Rabbi Arthur Green and

Jordan Schuster, Rab`18

Six Thursdays, beginning April 12

7-9 pm | \$200 per person

Space is limited | Registration required

[Learn more](#) | To register, email rosenberg@hebrewcollege.edu



Hebrew College Gala 2018

Honoring Rabbi Daniel Lehmann

and his decade of leadership at Hebrew College

May 3 | 6:30 pm

Gann Academy

Information on tables and sponsorships,

please contact [Sharon Katz](#), 617.559.8764



Torah Godly Play Practitioner Training
May 14 | 8 am-6 pm
Hebrew College
\$110 per person
[Learn more and Register](#)



SAVE THE DATE
Hebrew College Commencement 5778
June 3 | 10 am
Hebrew College



SAVE THE DATE
Presidential Installation Ceremony
Celebrating Rabbi Sharon Cohen Anisfeld
October 25 | Evening
Hebrew College
Information coming soon



From the Hebrew College Blog (blog.hebrewcollege.edu)

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

Glitz, Glam and God Parshat Tetzaveh (Exodus 27:20-30:10)

By Rabbi Adina Allen, Rab`14
Co-Founder and Creative Director, [The Jewish Studio Project](#)

“Holy Holy Holy is the Lord of Hosts!” Chanting these words in the Kedusha, we stand, feet together, mimicking the angels on high. As we press up onto our toes, yearning for that Divine connection, we take on the posture of these pure, ethereal beings without physical characteristics that exist only in spirit.

Our conception of holiness often follows on this track, conjuring images of those things pure, simple, beyond the mundanity of the physical world. Our most sacred day is often considered to be Yom Kippur—a day on which we wear a plain white ceremonial robe known as a kittel, and which we prepare for by immersing ourselves in the mikvah, the ritual bath which requires us to peel away all outer layers—clothes, makeup, jewelry— so as to enter the waters as unadorned as the day we were born.



>> [READ FULL POST](#)

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STATE OF FORMATION

Published by the [Miller Center for Interreligious Learning & Leadership](#) and the [Boston University School of Theology](#).

Identity, Privilege, and Power: Unpacking from My Trip to Indonesia

By **Micah Norman-Pace**
Fellow, State of Formation

This summer I traveled to Indonesia to participate in a two-week immersive program through CEDAR (Communities Engaging with Difference and Religion). The aim of the summer school is to bring together local and international fellows for holistic learning relating to the history of colonialism and religious diversity. This is the first of a series of reflections based on my experiences abroad and the deeply felt theory that is emerging as I unpack from my trip.



What is essential about me? Who am I in different contexts? How do my particular and contextual identity markers play out in new spaces? These were some of the questions I was asking myself on the 36-hour series of flights and layovers from Boston to Indonesia this past August. Throughout my two weeks in Indonesia I had the opportunity to explore these questions in the company of professors, religious leaders, journalists, and fellow graduate students from across the world...

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