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המכללה העברית  
**HEBREW COLLEGE**  
 Jewish learning and leadership for a pluralistic world

## NEWS & VIEWS

April 27, 2017 | 1 Yyar, 5777

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## Hebrew College 92nd Commencement & Ordination Ceremonies

Hebrew College is pleased to announce its [92nd Commencement and Ordination Ceremonies](#) on June 4, 2017 for graduates of the Rabbinical School, School of Jewish Music, Shoolman Graduate School of Jewish Education, and Jewish Studies program.

The morning commencement exercises for graduates receiving Jewish Education, Jewish Studies, Cantorial and Rabbinical degrees will take place from 10 to noon in Berenson Hall.



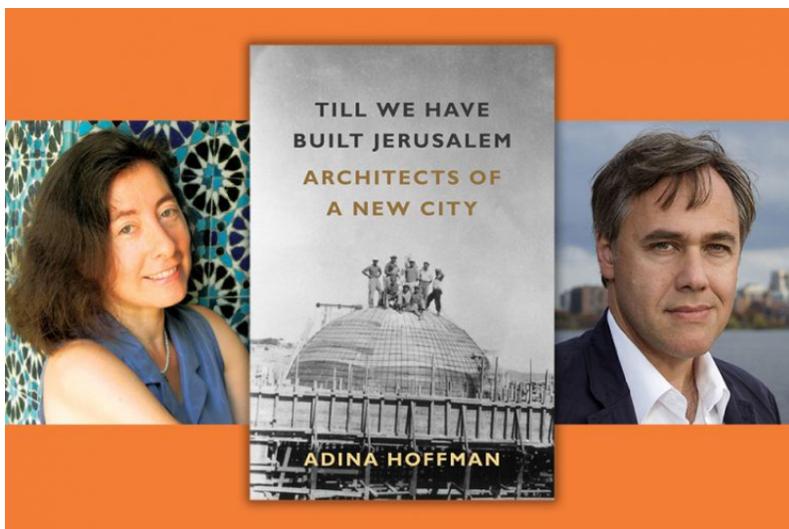
At the ceremony, Hebrew College will award honorary degrees to **Leon Botstein**, President of Bard College (above, left); **Judith Kates**, Professor of Jewish Women’s Studies at Hebrew College (above middle) — who will deliver the commencement address — and **Daniel Matt**, world-renowned *Kabbalah* expert (above right). Rabbinical student **Mònica Gomery** and Shoolman student **Barbara Merson** will deliver the student addresses.

In the afternoon, Rabbinical and Cantorial faculty, students and families will gather from 1:30 - 4:30 pm at Temple Reyim in Newton, MA for the ordination of 11 new rabbis, three new cantors, and Hebrew College’s first Rav-Hazzan (dual ordination rabbi and cantor).

For information, please email [Jessica Eisenberg](mailto:jessica.eisenberg@hebrewcollege.edu) or call 617.559.8775.



## Till We Have Built Jerusalem Event



May 1 at 7:30 pm  
Hebrew College  
\$18 | [Purchase Ticket](#)

We are approaching the 50th anniversary of the Six-Day War this June. Among the many images associated with this storied war, perhaps the most iconic are the photographs of the IDF paratroopers with their guns slung over their shoulders, kissing the Western Wall after bringing it under Jewish control for the first time in 2,000 years.

Less familiar to many is the history of the new city of Jerusalem and how this patchwork of

neighborhoods with its beginnings in the 1860's developed into the modern city of West Jerusalem. In her new book, *Till We Have Built Jerusalem: Architects of a New City*, author Adina Hoffman, captures this fascinating story as reflected through the experiences of three of its main architects. Hoffman will discuss the people behind the buildings in conversation with Israeli architect Rafi Segal next Monday evening at Hebrew College as they consider the recurring themes of loss, exile, and belonging that make up the story of the new city of Jerusalem.

The program begins at 7:30 pm. We invite you to join us at 7:00 pm as we mark the start of Yom Ha'atzmaut (Israeli independence Day) with a borekas and halvah "bar" and musical accompaniment by Florie Namir. The event is co-sponsored by the [Jewish Arts Collaborative](#) with the [Israeli American Council](#) and [Jewish Book Council](#).

To save \$3 on the tickets, please use the discount code: Jerusalem3 when you [purchase tickets](#).



## Kol Arev to Perform at BU's Wiesel Center



On May 4 at 6pm, Hebrew College's Chamber Ensemble, Kol Arev, will perform a concert of choral, solo and chamber work entitled *Jewish Art Music: From St. Petersburg to Palestine and Beyond* at the Boston University Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies in Boston.

Kol Arev is led by Music Director Amy Lieberman and Artistic Director Cantor Lynn Torgove, MAJS'11, Can'12 of the [School of Jewish Music at Hebrew College](#). Concert soloists include: Melanie Blatt, Elaine Bresnick, DJ Fortine, Maayan Harel, Jacob Harris, Rabbi Daniel Lehmann, Amy Lieberman, Wendy Linden, Dara Rosenblatt, Jinny Sagorin and Cantor Lynn

Torgove. I Ying, piano; Lauren Hobler, cello.

The concert is free and open to the public. For information, visit [bu.edu/jewishstudies](http://bu.edu/jewishstudies)

## May & June Hebrew College Events

([hebrewcollege.edu/upcoming-events](http://hebrewcollege.edu/upcoming-events))



### Power of Music: Two More Sunday Mornings of Jewish Music

May 7 - Rabbi Nehemia Polen

May 21 - Cantor Becky Khitrik, Can`14 & Hankus Netsky

All classes run 9:30-11:15 am (come to one or both)

Congregation Mishkan Tefila

384 Harvard Street, Brookline, MA

[Register](#)



### I'm Jewish, My Partner Isn't

featuring Dr. Keren McGinity, Director of the Shoolman School's Interfaith Families Jewish Engagement Program

April 30 at 6 pm

Congregation Mishkan Tefila

384 Harvard Street, Brookline, MA

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



### Till We Have Built Jerusalem:

A Conversation with Adina Hoffman and Rafi Segal

May 1 at 7:30 pm

Hebrew College | Co-Sponsored by the Jewish Arts Collaborative with the Israeli American Council and Jewish Book Council

\$18 | [Purchase Ticket](#)

### NEW! Kol Arev at the Elie Wiesel Center for Jewish Studies

Jewish Art Music: From St. Petersburg to Palestine and Beyond

May 4 at 6 pm

Elie Weisel Center for Jewish Studies

147 Bay State Road, Boston

Free | [Learn more](#)

**Torah Godly Play Training**

May 7, 2-7 pm and May 8, 2-5 pm

Hebrew College

\$85 | [Register](#)

**Circle House 10th Anniversary Celebration**

May 18 at 8 am - 4pm

Berenson Hall | Hebrew College

**NEW! President Trump, Jews, and The First 100 Days of the Trump Administration**

- A Look Back with Jonathan Golden, PhD

May 20 at 1pm, following Shabbat Services

Congregation Mishkan Tefila

384 Harvard Street, Brookline, MA



**NEW! A Taste of P4C: Philosophy for Children**

May 25, 2017 at 7 pm

Hebrew College

Free | [Learn more](#) | RSVP to [dron@hebrewcollege.edu](mailto:dron@hebrewcollege.edu)

**Hebrew College Commencement & Ordination**

June 4 | General Ceremony 10 am-12 pm at Hebrew College

Cantorial & Rabbinical Ordination Ceremonies 1:30-4:30 pm, Temple Reyim, Newton

[Learn more](#)



CONGREGATION  
MISHKAN TEFILA



*Denotes program offered by the  
Hebrew College - Congregation Mishkan Tefila  
Learning Series*



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## From the Hebrew College Blog ([blog.hebrewcollege.edu](http://blog.hebrewcollege.edu))

### RABBINICAL SCHOOL DIVREI TORAH

By Rachel Adelman, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Bible, Rabbinical School of Hebrew College



*He binds his son with the leather straps of his shoes -  
The knife, placed on a rock nearby, still for now.  
The boy turns his face to his father, and says:  
"Do not tell my mother  
While she is bent over a pit,  
Or standing on the roof  
Lest she throw herself down and die."*

I am standing in the kitchen early Friday morning with my list, when my son, Eitan, calls. "Ima, if God asked you to take your daughter, your only one, whom you love, Ariella, and offer her as a burnt offering on one of the Judean hills, would you listen?" I drop the pen, and press the receiver closer to hear between the lines. "I don't know, Eitan. How could I be sure that it was God's voice? It could be a crazy voice in me talking. No, I don't think I'd listen." "Well, what about me?" His voice cracks. "I would never listen to a voice that demanded I sacrifice either of my children, whether it was a demon or God, or someone holding a gun to my head."

> [READ FULL POST](#)

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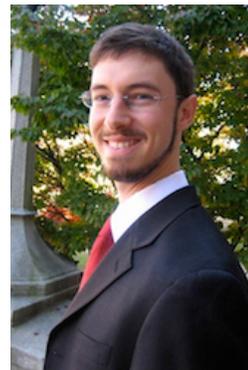
### SEVENTY FACES OF TORAH

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

# The 50 Year Itch

## Parshat Tazria-Metzora, Leviticus 12:15-8:33

**By Rabbi Lev Meirowitz Nelson**  
*Director of Education, Truah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights*



Amidst all the unfamiliar and gross-sounding skin conditions described in this week’s parshah, one jumps out with surprising, blaring familiarity: Shechin. “When the flesh has shechin in the skin and is healed...” (Lev. 13:18)

Shechin is the sixth plague that God brought upon the Egyptians. Some of us dip our pinkies in our cups at the seder table each year, removing drops of wine during the recitation of the Ten Plagues specifically between “dever” (cattle disease) and “barad” (hail) in recollection of the sixth plague’s horror. It was shechin that struck the Egyptian magicians so hard they could not stand before Moses (Exodus 9:12) Shechin was one symptom of the illness that nearly killed the righteous King Hezekiah, until he repented and was cured (II Kings 20:7).

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