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NEWS & VIEWS

March 23, 2017 | 25 Adar, 5777

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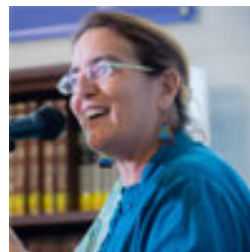
Zohar Scholar Melila Hellner-Eshed To Speak

Tuesday, April 4 at 7:30 pm
 Hebrew College
 \$10 | [Register](#)

Dr. Melila Hellner-Eshed (below, right) has spent 30 years bringing the narrative, the language, and the teachings of the Zohar (which she refers to as “the gem of mystical Judaism”) to life for a broad audience — from her students at The Hebrew University in Jerusalem to learners at the Shalom Hartman Institute; from study groups made up of secular Israelis to Jewish communities and institutions across North America, Europe and

the former Soviet Union.

Hellner-Eshed takes great delight in inviting her students into this foundational work of Jewish mysticism, using phrases such as “the key to its enchantment,” “falling in love with the Zohar,” and “it gives you vertigo at times” to describe the experience of entering into the universe of the Zohar.



Using contemporary metaphors and poetic language, Hellner-Eshed’s teaching on the Zohar, centers on the stories of the nine students and their teacher Shimon Bar Yochai, who are the protagonists of this medieval text and their call for the awakening of consciousness that has resonated across the generations.

Hellner-Eshed, who will be a Scholar-in-Residence at the [Rabbinical School of Hebrew College](#) in April, will also share her beautiful teachings on the Zohar at a public event at Hebrew College on Tuesday, April 4, co-sponsored by [Hebrew College](#) and [The Institute for Jewish Spirituality](#). Rabbinical School Rector Rabbi Arthur Green will introduce Hellner-Eshed before her talk entitled, “The Language of Awakening in the Zohar: The Sparkling Gem of Mystical Judaism.”

REGISTER ▶

Two Hebrew College "Spiritual" Entrepreneurs Receive Inaugural Award



Two Hebrew College alumni were among the four recipients of the [Open Dor Project's](#) first cohort of spiritual startup community leaders: [Rabbinical School](#) alumna **Rabbi Adina Allen, Rab'14**, and [Shoolman School](#) alumnus **Rabbi Dan Horwitz, MEd'12**.

"In a world where the very meaning of the words 'spirituality' and 'community' are changing so rapidly, would there be a critical mass of brave Jewish clergy leaders doing this path-breaking work and searching for their own community of practice?" asked Rabbi George Wielechowski and David Cygielman in their EJewish Philanthropy article about the prize. The two were overwhelmed by the response. Among the many applications, Rabbis Allen

and Horwitz stood out.

Rabbi Allen is the co-founder & creative director of [The Jewish Studio Project](#) (JSP) a Berkeley, CA-based non-profit which activates the creativity within individuals and communities. Part urban art studio, part beit midrash, part spiritual community, JSP offers a new approach to creativity - one in which art is not just for artists and Jewish texts are not just for scholars. JSP's newest addition is Studio Am ("The People's Studio"), an urban art studio in Berkeley that offers an accessible, uplifting and creative pathway into Jewish connection and community.



Rabbi Dan Horwitz is founder of [The Well](#), an inclusive Jewish community-building, education and spirituality outreach initiative in Metro Detroit geared to the needs of young adults and those who haven't connected with traditional institutions. The Well is founded on the belief that Jewish community, ethics, values, and spirituality can and should be directly applicable to our lives, and should drive us to positively impact the world around us.



LEARN MORE ►

Ruderman Summit on Philanthropy, Power and Democracy in the Jewish Community of the 21st Century



SUNDAY, APRIL 2, 2017

11:30 am - 6 pm at Hebrew College

\$50 (\$25 General discount rate) | [Register](#)

\$20 Student discount rate available by contacting [Marilyn Stern](#)

Responsive to recent shifts in Jewish engagement and the commitment to Jewish life, it is time to examine how we govern ourselves as a Jewish community in the information age. If

not now, when? [The Ruderman Foundation](#), together with [Hebrew College](#) and the [Jewish Funders Network](#), invites you to a summit and public conversation on Jewish communal governance for the 21st century. [Learn more](#) about the panelists, topics of discussion, and how to register.

LEARN MORE ►



Countdown to the Hebrew College Gala 2017: One Month to Go!

Join us in an exciting evening of celebrating the innovation of Hebrew College's 96-years as a leading institution of Jewish education and leadership! This year's [Gala](#) will be a memorable night of storytelling and musical performance as we honor three remarkable leaders of Hebrew College and the Boston Jewish community: **Louis Grossman, Me'ah`00**, **Rabbi Ma'ayan Sands, MAJS`93, Rab`16**, and **Susan Ain, Me'ah`02, MAJS`11**.

*Please RSVP by purchasing your tickets and tributes by Monday, April 3rd *

Even if you are not able to attend the event, please consider making a gift or tribute in honor of these committed leaders of our Hebrew College community. Mazal tov Louis, Susan, and Ma'ayan!

RESERVATIONS,
TABLES, TRIBUTES ►

Humans of Hebrew College



Learn more about [Rabbinical School](#) student [Ayalon Eliach](#) (middle, above) and other Hebrew College #Humans on [Facebook](#) and [our blog](#). If you are interested in being featured, 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!)

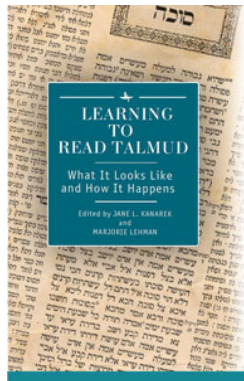
Notable & Quotable

On March 20, Cantor Lynn Torgove, MAJS'11, Can'12, Head of Vocal Arts at the [School of Jewish Music](#), was the guest performer singing songs from the Lodz Ghetto at the opening of the Museum of Fine Arts exhibit *Memory Unearthed: The Lodz Ghetto Photographs of Henryk Ross*. Joshua Jacobson, senior consultant in the School of Jewish Music, was on the opening's introductory panel. The exhibition tells the story of the Lodz Ghetto during World War II, through the surviving photographs of Polish Jewish photojournalist Henryk Ross (1910-1991).



March and April Events

(hebrewcollege.edu/upcoming-events)



Learning to Read Talmud with Habits of Heart and Mind

TONIGHT! Learning to Read Talmud with Habits of Heart and Mind
with Rabbi Jane Kanarek, PhD and Marjorie Lehman, PhD

March 23 at 7:30 pm

Hebrew College

Free | [Register](#)



**Ruderman Kneset Mission Town Hall Meeting
Strengthening the Relationship: Town Hall Meeting with Israeli Kneset Members &
Interactive Conversation with the Community**

March 29 at 7:30 pm

Congregation Kehillath Israel | 384 Harvard Street, Brookline

RSVP to rsvp@rudermanfoundation.org

**Ruderman Summit on Philanthropy, Power and Democracy
in the Jewish Community of the 21st Century**

April 2 from 11:30 am - 6pm

Hebrew College

\$50 (\$25 General discount rate; \$20 Student rate)

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

**The Language of Awakening in the Zohar:
The Sparkling Gem of Mystical Judaism**

April 4 at 7:30 pm

Hebrew College

\$10 | [Register](#)

Hebrew College Gala 2017

April 27 at 5:30 pm

Back Bay Events Center

[Learn more](#) | [Purchase Tickets and Tributes](#)

Power of Music: Three Sunday Mornings of Jewish Music

April 30 - Cantor Lynn Torgove, MAJS'11, Can'12

May 7 - Rabbi Nehemia Polen

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

All classes run 9:30-11:15 am (choose 1, 2 or 3)

Congregation Mishkan Tefila

384 Harvard Street, Brookline, MA

[Register](#)





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

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Thank you!



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

SEVENTY FACES OF TORAH

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

The Portable God Box

Parshat Vayakhel-Pekudei (Exodus 35:1-40:38)

By Rabbi Avi Strausberg, Rab'15

Director of Congregational Learning, Temple of Aaron in St. Paul, MN

I'm hesitant to admit it, but I didn't grow up camping. I'd like for others to imagine me as someone who could hack it wandering around the woods for a few days, but in fact, I'm quite inept when it comes to setting up tents—or really, constructing anything. There's something about all of the bending, interlocking rods, those “easy-to-understand” pictorial directions with arrows pointing here and there—my brain goes into shut-down mode. I recently tried to “assemble” a vacuum cleaner only to give up an hour later having failed to attach the vacuum head to the vacuum itself. Thank God for my wife.



Perhaps for similar reasons, my brain also shuts down when I start reading the lengthy descriptions of the construction and contents of the mishkan, the holy tabernacle that is to house God's presence in the wilderness. And this week's double parasha, Vayakhel-Pekudei, provides double action-packed description of just what goes into making this holy meeting place for God.

> [READ FULL POST](#)

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