Celebrating 10 Years of Dynamic Jewish Learning!
2009-2019
Boston’s Premier Volunteer-Driven Festival
of Jewish Culture & Learning
Sunday, November 17, 2019
384 Harvard Campus, Brookline, MA
Dear Steffi,

We want to thank you for bringing Limmud to New England and for your amazing efforts to put LimmudFest on our community’s adult learning map.

Please accept our gratitude on behalf of...

- the thousands of individuals who have benefited from the great Jewish learning and culture at LimmudFest each year.

- the hundreds of donors who recognize the importance of what you’ve created and support it financially.

- the over 100 Jewish educators, scholars and presenters every year who find an excited and receptive audience in the LimmudFest community.

- the dozens of agencies and synagogues who appreciate how unique the learning is at LimmudFest and support it with their promotions and presence.

- the countless exhibitors and silent auction donors who share their crafts, products and services at one of our community’s largest gatherings of Jews each year.

With love and appreciation,
From some of your LimmudBoston friends and admirers:

Naomi Gurt Lind, Board Chair
Alan Teperow, Interim Director
Terri Swartz Russell, Carol and David Stollar,
Deb Barsel, Dana Klein, Len Abram, Shirah Hecht,
Emma Stitcher and Julie Wolkoff
Welcome to LimmudFest 2019!

This 10th Year Anniversary is a special source of nachas and celebration for all the many "volunticipants" who have brought LimmudFest to our community for the past 10 years. This annual event, founded by Steffi Aronson Karp under the international Limmud umbrella, is a highlight of the year for Boston’s Jewish community. We learn from each other, build a vibrant experiential learning environment, and create opportunities to explore Judaism in all its unique flavors.

This year’s program of 80+ sessions was curated by our spectacular Program Team in collaboration with more than 100 presenters and performers. As part of LimmudFest 2019 we also pay tribute to LimmudBoston founder Steffi Karp, whose love of Jewish learning and culture has enriched the fabric of Jewish life in our area.

We invite you to follow your passions and discover something new today! Find connection to our shared heritage, exploring Jewish texts, meditating, discussing social justice issues, preparing Jewish delicacies and much, much more.

This Year We Have Even More to Celebrate!

We encourage all to share in a special 10-year anniversary celebration of this dynamic annual experience—with music, a rabbinic panel, and a special tribute to Steffi, who has brought us all the shared joy of the LimmudFest experience. Please join us at 11:20 am in the KI Sanctuary.

Limmudlyours,

Naomi Gurt Lind
Board Chair

Alan Teperow
Interim Director

Shirah Hecht
Program Team Lead

Additional Opportunities

**Silent Auction:** Check out the Silent Auction in the pre-school lobby, a major source of funding for LimmudBoston. Bidding closes at 4:00 pm, so don’t miss out on the many unique gifts you can find for all ages and types.

**Volunticipate in LimmudFest 2020:** If you are inspired today, come to the Limmud Reception, one of seven sessions to take place during lunch. Find out how you can become more involved in LimmudFest November 15, 2020! Your time and talent make LimmudFest happen.

**Please remember:** Each one of us is important to the success of today’s event. We ask that you step in to help as needed. Please look for volunteer information in the ground floor lobby throughout the day and pitch in where you can!
Our Mission Statement

LimmudBoston is the non-profit Jewish organization that produces an annual volunteer-driven festival, now known as LimmudFest. Celebrating Jewish life and community, LimmudBoston honors the core values of Limmud International. We celebrate learning, diversity and community involvement. We honor tradition and explore expanding our Jewish horizons. We value all members of the community. We foster connections and encourage participation. No matter where you are on the spectrum of Jewish living, there is more to learn and more to do at our annual LimmudFest.

Limmud International Core Values

Learning. Everyone should be a student and anyone can be a teacher. Learning changes people, inspires action, and opens new worlds. We encourage the creation of a learning environment in which people are able to reflect and grow.

Enabling Connections. We aim to create opportunities for communities and individuals to connect. We recognize the strength of providing a space where spiritual, emotional, and intellectual connections are made.

Participation. Volunteerism is a key feature of almost everything we do. We are all responsible for each other and for the communities we create—everyone has an important contribution to make.

Respect. No one is more important than anyone else. We expect all participants to be respectful of one another, and to recognize that all volunteers are also participants. Personal attacks are not acceptable in any Limmud context.

Empowerment. We see the potential of individuals and communities and support their development. We inspire people to be ambitious about their contribution. We empower people to make choices.

Confidentiality. We respect privacy. What is shared in confidentiality in a session is not public information to be shared.

Expanding Jewish Horizons. We strive to create individual, collective, and communal experiences through which we strengthen and develop our Jewish identity.

Diversity. We value the rich diversity among Jews, and so we seek to create cross-communal and intergenerational experiences. We value accessibility and aim to be accessible to all.

Community and Mutual Responsibility. Limmud is a community of learning. We can achieve more together than we can individually. We gain from, and should give something back to, the Jewish and wider community.

Arguments for the Sake of Heaven. “Arguments for the sake of heaven” contribute to education and understanding. We do not participate in legitimizing or de-legitimizing any religious or political position found in the worldwide Jewish community. Vigorous debate is entirely acceptable but we will seek to avoid religious or political conflict.

Religious Observance. We seek to create an inclusive environment for all participants, whatever their religious observance practices. We believe in the importance of enabling Shabbat and kashrut to be kept in all public areas as much as possible so that Jews do not have to separate themselves one from another.
2019 LimmudFest General Information

LimmudFest runs on volunteer power! There are volunteers around the building wearing LimmudBoston t-shirts. Please ask them for assistance, and they’ll do their best to meet your needs. We can always use more help! Check out jobs posted in the lobby. Put on a t-shirt and grab a shift!

**Name Tags:** For your security, wear your nametag at ALL times. And, please recycle your nametag by leaving it in the return box in the lobby.

**Sessions:** Please arrive on time so that sessions can start on time. If you need to leave mid-session, do so quietly. Please turn off your cellphone! Note that sessions fill up on a first come first serve basis.

**Silent Auction and Exhibits:** Check out LimmudFest’s Silent Auction and exhibitor tables. The Silent Auction is located throughout the day until 4:00pm in the ground floor Preschool lobby. Bid early! Bid often! Exhibits are located in the Social Hall.

**Lunch:** If you reserved your lunch before the festival, your order is indicated on the back of your nametag. A limited number of lunch tickets are available for purchase today at the registration area or at the entrance of the social hall.

**Accessibility:** This is an accessible building with ramps and elevators for those who require them. Look around. Offer to assist!

**Emergencies:** The registration area in the lobby is for emergencies, first aid, lost & found and other helpful information. In case of an emergency, notify a LimmudBoston volunteer at the registration table or call 911. Stay on the line to state the nature of the emergency and your location—Kehillath Israel, 384 Harvard Street, Brookline.

**We want your feedback:** Watch for our online evaluation and be sure to respond as soon as possible.

**End of Day Cleanup:** At Limmud conferences around the world, participants clean up after themselves. Join us at the end of the day to help make sure that we leave the 384 Harvard Campus even cleaner than we found it.

**Smile, you’re on LimmudCamera.** We are taking photos at this event for promotional use, and your attendance constitutes your approval for LimmudBoston to use your likeness for promotional purposes. If you prefer not to have your image used in LimmudBoston promotional materials, just let us know.
Thank You!

We extend our deepest gratitude to the dozens of volunteers and organizations who have worked tirelessly to bring LimmudFest 2019 to the Greater Boston Jewish community. Your passion, creativity, ideas and commitment are inspiring. You make this day!

LimmudFest 2019 Teams

**Communications**
- Jordan Weil, Team Lead
- Yairah Shalhevet
- Linna Ettinger
- Amy Westebbe
- Abbe Neumann
- Leah Solodokin

**Program**
- Shirah Hecht, Team Lead
- David Stollar
- Terri Swartz Russell
- Julie Wolkoff
- Carol Stollar
- Emma Stitcher
- Barbara Miller
- Len Abram
- Sara Gilman
- Leslie Friedman

**Celebration Gathering**
- Lyn Perry, Team Lead
- Carolyn Rubin, Team Lead
- Scott Merlis
- Pam Weil
- Nina Rubin
- Naomi Gurt Lind
- Bruce Creditor
- Lisa Litant
- Vladimir Foygelman
- Deb Barsel

**Music**
- Deb Barsel

**Program Book**
- Amy Westebbe
- Benita Danzing

**Storytelling**
- Cindy Rivka Marshall

**Volunteer Coordinator**
- Dana Klein

**Logistics**
- Joni Schockett, Team Lead
- Barbara Miller, Team Lead
- Ed Lidman
- Philip Platcow
- Larry Saloman
- Vladimir Foygelman

**Session Proposal Editors**
- Benita Danzing
- Joni Schockett
- Rona Trachtenberg
- Deanna Mirsky

**Silent Auction**
- Leah Solodokin

**Session Selection**
- Shirah Hecht
- Emma Stitcher
- Joni Schockett
- Barbara Miller
- Merle Carrus
- Dana Klein
- Len Abram
- Julie Wolkoff

**Administration**
- Hallie Savage
- Debbie Yoburn
- Terry Goldzier
- Paul Kelly

**Online Evaluations**
- Benita Danzing
- Sara Gilman
- Naomi Gurt Lind

Special thanks to the wonderful people at the 384 Harvard Campus who have graciously opened their beautiful new facility and worked closely with the LimmudBoston team to ensure the festival’s success. In particular, we appreciate the efforts and support of Rabbi Bill Hamilton, Paula Silver and Noa Vardy (KI), Rabbi Marcia Plumb (Mishkan Tefila), and Vladimir Foygelman (Center Makor).

LimmudBoston Board of Directors

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- Julie Wolkoff
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  - Past Chair
- Barbara Posnick
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- Eric H. Karp
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- Marcia Plumb
- Benita Danzing
- Scott Merlis
- Alan Teperow
  - Interim Director
- Joni Schockett
Friends of LimmudBoston

We want to acknowledge the staff and leadership of the following agencies, businesses and synagogues, and thank them for their support of LimmudFest 2019 (at press time).

Our Generous Sponsors

Jewish Storytelling Coalition
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Temple Ohabei Shalom
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Levine Chapels
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Congregation Dorshei Tzedek
The Rashi School
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2Life Communities
Synagogue Council of MA
Kahan B’raira
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Exhibitors

2Life Communities
Community Hevra Kadisha of Greater Boston
Hebrew College
JNF
BaMidbar
Jewish Alliance for Law and Social Justice
The Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center at NEHGS
Jewish Climate Action Network
Combined Jewish Philanthropy
Greater Boston’s Congregation for Humanistic Judaism
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Our Partner Agencies

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Lauren and Richard Langevin
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Benita Danzing
Sally Bock
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Leann Shamash

Kolbo
Fiorella’s
Hair by Hanna
Turnstyle
Seoul Therapy Massage
Future Shapes
Catering by Andrew
New England Car Show
Crystal Nails
Coolidge Corner Theatre
Mayyim Hayyim
Daniel Doke Photography
JWed
Sawyouatsinai.com
Maureen Mintz
October 19, 2019

LimmudBoston
P.O. Box 36
Newton, MA 02468

Shalom and Welcome!

Combined Jewish Philanthropies is thrilled to be a sponsor of LimmudBoston. CJP is committed to connecting people across Greater Boston to Jewish life, community and dynamic learning experiences like Limmud. With agency, organization and synagogue partners on the ground, we are working to bolster creativity, innovation and excellence and to ensure diverse points of access to Jewish experience.

This year we are also pleased to join the community in celebration of Steffi Aronson Karp and ten years of LimmudBoston. We know that LimmudBoston will go from strength to strength as it enters its second decade.

We hope today will inspire you to discover more Jewish learning throughout the year. We are proud to partner with Hebrew College to offer Me’ah (100 hours of Jewish learning), Me’ah Select (one semester courses), Parenting Through a Jewish Lens, Open Circle Jewish Learning, and Eser (10 sessions of Jewish learning for young adults). Genesis Forum, a free monthly lunch and learn at CJP’s Kraft Family Building and in the suburbs, is a great way to add learning to your day. SearchOn, at JewishBoston.com, can help you create a tailored list of learning opportunities unique to your needs. CJP also supports a wide range of Jewish experiences for children and teens and their families, including overnight camping, day schools and our work to transform and innovate in supplementary schools through Jewish Learning Connections.

We wish everyone a wonderful day of learning, growth, and exploration!

Rabbi Marc Baker  
President

Cynthia R. Janower  
Chair, Board of Directors

Rabbi Elyse Winick  
Senior Director, Learning and Education
November 2019

Dear Friends,

It is an incredible honour and privilege to wish LimmudBoston a huge Mazal Tov on what will be an inspiring and transformative gathering! LimmudBoston is the result of the passion, dreams and commitment of a dedicated team of volunteers led by Naomi Gurt Lind and we owe them all such a huge thank you.

A very special thank you to Steffi Aronson Karp who is stepping down after ten incredible years as LimmudBoston's founder and director. Steffi, we are so incredibly grateful for all that you have given to LimmudBoston and to the wider Limmud family.

Another thank you is for YOU. You are one of over 40,000 people who have participated in nearly 90 Limmuds across 42 countries around the world in the last year. You might even be one of the 4,000 volunteers who make this happen globally. The numbers may be big but we appreciate the part that every one of you has played in building a truly remarkable global Limmud community that started in the UK nearly forty years ago.

Limmud's unique model of volunteer-led, cross-communal, multi-generational and transformational Jewish experiences is now truly global and has now taken place on every continent in the world—including Antarctica! We invite you to travel and experience Limmuds in other parts of North America and around the the world—whichever Limmud you travel to, you will feel right at home.

From the bottom of our hearts, thank you everyone who has played a part - as a volunteer, presenter and participant. Limmud is what it is because of you.

B'shalom,

Shoshana Bloom
Global Chair, Limmud
November 2019
Welcome!

On behalf of nearly a dozen 384 Campus Partners, I am thrilled to welcome you to Greater Boston’s premiere celebration of all things Jewish!

Whether you’re new to LimmudBoston or a seasoned veteran, I hope this is a day of discovery and renewal for you. May it be a day in which fresh ideas dance in your head. May it be a day in which you meet new seekers and kindred spirits from amongst the myriads who will take part in today’s Festival.

A special thanks to Steffi Aronson Karp - whom we honor today for her bringing LimmudBoston to soaring heights in our 10th year - for her peerless leadership. LimmudBoston is poised to ascend into its second decade in ways that will expand its reach thanks to all that Steffi has done and continues to do to inspire us!

We believe ‘deep calls to deep’. Our hope is that a deep-dive into today’s experiences will add depth to your spiritual life. May it also help you fashion for yourself a richly furnished inner life.

Welcome again and may the energy of our Campus abuzz with Jewish life nourish your journey for much growth in the year to come.

Warmly yours.

Rabbi William Hamilton
Kehillath Israel
over the past century, and consider its applications for today. Let’s examine how Zionism fits into this new world order. How does one support Jewish countries are becoming isolationist. Many Jews wonder how nationalism while avoiding the pitfalls of extremism? Let’s examine the ways in which Jewish thinkers have approached this question.

In light of rising nationalist supremacy and xenophobia, more Jews, Zionism and Justice in an Age of Ethnocentrism

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Russian Discussion - First Two Chapters of Genesis

Jim Morgan
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy

In Russian, this session will examine the first two chapters of the book of Genesis. Why do we have two creation stories? How do we make sense of how they differ? What do the differences tell us about the world? About God? About ourselves? We will look at the Torah text, midrashim, and commentary.

Encore: https://commonwealthmagazine.org/opinion/shut-the-concentration-camps-down/

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Encore: https://www.brandeis.edu/cmjs/noteworthy/jcc.html

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Massive Conversions of Christians to Judaism in Latin America

Diana Abadi
Subject Area: Communities (Families & Parenting)

Some years ago, the Jewish community of Colombia had an unprecedented situation. A group of 108 people converted to Judaism without having any previous contact with it. This group and others like it, known by the local Jews as ‘emerging communities’, sometimes want to make aliyah or join existing local communities. How is this being handled by various communities?

Encore: https://www.brandeis.edu/cmjs/noteworthy/jcc.html

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Do Not Oppress the Stranger

Eri Solomon
Subject Area: Social Justice/Action (Diversity/Inclusivity), History & Politics, Torah & Philosophy

Concern for the dignity of immigrants and vulnerable communities is foundational to Jewish tradition and history. As we bear witness to the humanitarian crisis at our border, we are communally called to be a voice for justice. We will explore classical texts and opportunities for shared action.

No prior knowledge of Mussar needed.

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

From Silence to Speech: Mussar on Shticka/Silence

Marcia Plumb
Subject Area: Mind, Body & Soul

If you’re shy and wish you could speak up more, or you interrupt people to make your point, this session is for you. Using Mussar middah of Shtickah/Silence, we will look at the role words and silence play in our lives. We will investigate how & when we speak in person, online & even what we “say” with our body language. No prior knowledge of Mussar needed.

Encore: RabbiPlumb@mishkantefila.org

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Arguments, Penalties, and the Still Small Voice

Aaron Shub
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy

Many people who are drawn to Torah study out of a desire for spiritual growth, feel stymied by the study of Talmud. This is especially true because Talmud texts are legalistic, and those legal texts do not match modern notions of morality. We will examine such a text with an eye towards finding spirituality through Torah study.

Encore: www.mainesynagogue.org

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

And God Buried Moses: Stories of Jewish Burial

Joey Glick; Adele Moss
Subject Area: Prayer & Liturgy

We will explore Jewish burial practices through rabbinic stories of death and burial. We’ll learn how God and humans, kings and paupers, prepared their loved ones for burial. Our learning will provide a window into the history and contemporary practice of how Jews care for the dead.

Encore: www.hevrakadisha.org/

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Encore: https://www.brandeis.edu/cmjs/noteworthy/jcc.html

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Everything Has Changed. Why Haven’t We?

Amy Sales; Mark Sokoll; Jason Skolnick
Subject Area: Communities (Families & Parenting)

Most legacy institutions in the Jewish community were established mid-20th century and look remarkably the same today. How can they join the 21st century? We tackle this question through creativity exercises, stories of successful change, and a discussion of what promotes innovation within our communities.

Encore: https://www.brandeis.edu/cmjs/noteworthy/jcc.html

9:00 AM - 10:00 AM

Jews, Zionism and Justice in an Age of Ethnocentrism

Alexander Kaye
Subject Area: History & Politics, Social Justice/Action (Diversity/Inclusivity)

In light of rising nationalist supremacy and xenophobia, more countries are becoming isolationist. Many Jews wonder how Zionism fits into this new world order. How does one support Jewish nationalism while avoiding the pitfalls of extremism? Let’s examine the ways in which Jewish thinkers have approached this question over the past century, and consider its applications for today.

Encore: The Invention of Jewish Theocracy coming in February 2020 from Oxford University Press
The Golem’s Shadow: Elemental Wonder
Joshua Breindel
Subject Area: Arts & Culture, History & Politics, Other
Made from clay and animated by divine power, the Golem obeys its creator, but often at a terrible price. From Rabbinic legends to Kabbalah, from Frankenstein to The X-Files, we will explore the enduring power and influence of this dynamic figure in Jewish, and Western, speculative fiction.
Encore: Golem!: Danger/ Deliverance and Art (Emily Bilski) Golem: Jewish Magical and Mystical Traditions on the Artificial Anthropoid (Moshe Idel) The Golem Redux: From Prague to Post-Holocaust Fiction (Elizabeth Baer), Being Mortal - Dr. Atul Gawande Go Wish: A

Jewish Sex Ethics, or Sex with Judaism
Judy Greene
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy, Mind, Body & Soul
It is fun to talk about sex, and having a strong understanding of sex ethics according to Judaism makes for an interesting conversation. We will look at a study of Jewish sex ethics throughout history, using sources from the Torah, Talmud, Medieval texts and modern day thought.

Psalmology: Moving our Prayers
Julie Leavitt
Subject Area: Mind, Body & Soul, Arts & Culture
Prayer is the interaction between word and the body. Our neshamot may respond to a word or phrase, and our prayer deepens or, conversely, we get distracted. We will work with the art of physical presence, inhabiting the words from Tehillim, the Psalms, and eventually, writing our own psalms/prayers from both the individual and communal movement experiences of our bodies.
Encore: Bodyheartandsoul.net

Dreaming Our Way Back to the Garden
Linda Yael Schiller
Subject Area: Mind, Body & Soul
Jewish tradition has long recognized the power of our night dreams and waking visions. Learn this history and a unique method based on the PaRDeS method of reading Torah to understand the layers of our dreams from those that reflect our daily lives to those that reach the depths of our souls. Come with a dream to unpack!

Thoreau's Secret and the Language of the Jews: A Midrash on Walden
Natasha Shabat
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy
Surprise! Kohelet (Ecclesiastes) heavily influenced Henry David Thoreau’s famous book, Walden. Explore his secret Hebrew studies at 19th-century Harvard with close readings from both texts. Learn how the Transcendentalists used ideas and actual verses from Kohelet.
Encore: NatashaShabat.com

Witness Theater: Bringing Holocaust Survivors Back to High School
Sally Grazi-Shatzkes
Subject Area: Education
What happens when Holocaust survivors get together with teenagers once a week for an entire year? Throw in a drama therapist to guide the process and you have the magic of “Witness Theater.” Come learn how this incredible program changes the lives of our nation’s heroes and our future leaders. This session was made possible with generous support from The Covenant Foundation.
Encore: www.sallygrazishatzkes.com/mywork

It’s Not Too Early To Do Your Hanukkah Shopping
Judith Black
Subject Area: Science & Innovation
Our existential climate crisis can immobilize us. We will explore your unique relationship to the changes we are all experiencing, voice this as story, and consider, through your individual strengths, skills, and knowledge, how to connect experience and strengths to an action plan. If not now, when?

The Contributions of Women-Driven Biblical Study in North American, Jewish Adult Education
Melissa Adelman
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy
Let’s discuss the historical and contextual factors and conditions in Jewish education that address the perceived, widespread exclusion of the experiences of female biblical characters when teaching Torah to adults.

Whose House is it? House of Aharon and House of Miryam
Aliza Arzt
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy
In the Hallel psalms, recited on holidays, the term Beit Aharon is used several times. As part of the ongoing work to make the liturgy more egalitarian, the question arises whether Beit Miryam is a legitimate substitution. Learn about the results of the investigation with a surprising midrashic punchline.
If Prayers Could Sing! Finding the Music in Prayer.
Arnie Davidson; Shelly Aronson

Subject Area: Prayer & Liturgy, Arts & Culture

Songwriter Arnie Davidson and soloist Shelly Aronson share their music/worship journey from worshipers to chavurah worship leaders. Participate in original, contagious prayer melodies used in their unique music-filled Shabbat service. We will sing, learn new songs, and bring home new melodies and music leadership ideas.

Encore: www.shirhamakom.org

10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
The Jews Arrive in Newton
Beryl Gilfix

Subject Area: History & Politics

Discover the history of Newton’s oldest synagogue, which is 107 years old. Learn about the founding of our Orthodox congregation and its relationship with the immigrant community in which it flourished, as Irish, French Canadians, Italians and Jews lived side-by-side and learned to be American in the early years of the 20th century.

10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
The First Jewish Painter Moritz Daniel Oppenheim
Bruce Levy

Subject Area: Arts & Culture

This session will examine the work of Moritz Daniel Oppenheim, a 19th century German Jewish artist, known as the First Jewish Painter. His work played a significant role in presenting Jewish tradition and depicting the challenges Jews faced in the emerging, emancipated, modern world.

Encore: www.jewishvirtuallibrary.org/moritz-daniel-oppenheim

10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
So You Fell Asleep in Services - Do You Still Count For a Minyan? Uncovering Authentic Jewish Values
Danny Siegel

Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy

So many topics and authentic Jewish values were never covered in advanced Jewish educations. We will study short, often ignored, forgotten, or off-beat texts to uncover those values. Topics include what does Judaism say about competitiveness, self-image, failure, decision-making, heroes, fulfillment, consistency, excellence, achievement, talent, and well-roundedness.

Encore: www.dannysiegel.com/blogs.timesofisrael.com/author/danny-siegel/

10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
Why is Elijah at Our Seders?
Elana Kling Perkins

Subject Area: Education, Other

What is Elijah doing at our seders? Who was he in the Bible and who did he become in Jewish folklore? Why do we invite him to our homes? What does he represent? We will take a historical look at the development of Elijah’s role in Jewish life, learn some songs about him and share a story or two.

10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
2020 Women’s Vote Centennial - Why Did It Take 72 Years to Get the Vote?!
Fredie Kay

Subject Area: History & Politics, Social Justice/Action (Diversity/Inclusivity)

2020 is the centennial of the passage of the 19th amendment which finally gave women the right to vote. But the fight for that right began in 1848. This session will look at the intervening 72 plus years between 1848 and the passage of the amendment and will include an exploration of the efforts of Jewish women in this fight and the relevance of those efforts to today.

Encore: www.suffrage100ma.org

10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
Joseph in the Torah and Qu’ran
Jim Brule

Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy

We will explore the stories of Joseph in the Torah and Qu’ran in an active, lively dialogue. The goal is to achieve a deeper, more robust understanding of the stories in Torah, and a new appreciation for the structures and beliefs of Islam.

Encore: The Study Quran: A New Translation and Commentary by Seyyed Hossein Nasr Editor in Chief HarperOne 2015

10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
Echo Chambers Instead of Conversation: It Starts in the Bible
Judy Klitsner

Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy

We will examine several sibling-centered stories in the book of Genesis, noting a recurring and dangerous tendency toward inattentive, one-sided conversation. We will draw a line from these narratives to the Jewish people today, noting the enduring nature of diminished communication among opponents, and the resulting increase in fractiousness. In our explorations, we will encounter signs of hope for repair.

Encore: For follow up on the dynamic interaction between biblical stories and on the Bible’s incisive rendering of complex family relations see my book Subversive Sequels in the Bible: How Biblical Stories Mine and Undermine Each Other.
10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
**Room G-16**

*Enough with Small Talk, Let's Get to Big Talk*
Leah Solodokin; Jennifer Kohanim Pittelman

*Subject Area: Communities (Families & Parenting)*

When was the last time we discussed real issues that matter and make us who we are? Most likely, not often as we too often engage in small talk. This realization led to the creation of our monthly women's forum, Big Talk. Join us as we discuss the makings of Big Talk and give you a taste of our forum with a discussion of one of our most popular topics!

10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
**Room G-25**

*The Powers That Bind: Women in the Family Circle*

Noreen Leibson

*Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy*

Our ancient texts are riddled with tales of lust, seduction and adultery. However, the female voices are often missing. In this workshop, we will explore Eve and Lilith. We will go through new portals and deeply explore the text, as we invite the missing voices to speak out.

**Encore:** *Listen To Her Voice: Women of the Hebrew Bible* by Mili Raver.

10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
**Room U-13**

*In Our Voices*

Sandy Slavet; Marie Strazzulla; Elizabeth Gray; Dan Moss

*Subject Area: Social Justice & Action (Diversity & Inclusivity)*

Being part of a Jewish community is meaningful for those who fit comfortably in the center. But what about those who are often left out in the margins? Three adults with ID/DD who are active members of synagogue life and Jewish community programs will share their personal stories of how they found their place. The panel will be moderated by Sandy Slavet.

10:10 AM - 11:10 AM
**Room G-27**

*From the Rib, Which Elohin Took From Eve, She Made a Man: A Regendering Torah Experience*

Yael Kanarek

*Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy, Arts & Culture*

Whether an intellectual exercise or a women-centered sacred text, the Regendered Bible unsettles habitual thinking. For the past two and half years, Yael Kanarek has been rewriting the Torah, transitioning all characters to the opposite sex: Imagine Moshah on Har Sinai receiving the ten commandments from Elohin. During this group reading and discussion, we will explore these familiar stories through the mother-daughter lineage.

**Encore:** [jewishjournal.com/culture/lifestyle/first_person/303678/ny-artist-re-genders-the-torah-while-keeping-tradition/](https://jewishjournal.com/culture/lifestyle/first_person/303678/ny-artist-re-genders-the-torah-while-keeping-tradition/)

11:20 AM to 12:40 PM

**A Reason to Celebrate!**

Join us in the KI Sanctuary to Celebrate 10 Years of LimmudBoston and to Honor Steffi Aronson Karp, Founder

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**Celebration Gathering Program**

* ♭ Music by Joel Segel, Benyamin Lichtenstein and Mitch Gordon

* ♭ Welcome: Naomi Gurt Lind, *Board Chair*

* ♭ Tributes to Steffi: Robert Goldstein, Adam Karp

* ♭ Presentation to Steffi: Lyn Perry, Carolyn Rubin

* ♭ Rabbinic Panel: Arthur Green, Margie Klein Ronkin

* ♭ Moderator: Toba Spitzer

* ♭ Closing Remarks: Alan Teperow, *Interim Director*

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**Educating for what?**

The Celebration Rabbinic Panel surveys the landscape of adult Jewish learning, addressing critical questions about today’s status and prospects for the future.

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Encore: [https://www.levinstitute.com/shake-your-soul](https://www.levinstitute.com/shake-your-soul)
EAT & SCHMOOZE
If you pre-ordered lunch, your ticket is the back of your nametag. Some additional meal tickets are available for purchase at the Registration Desk in the main lobby throughout the morning and at the entrance to the social hall during lunch. Please respect the 384 Harvard Campus kashrut policy: Do not bring food into this building.

IT’S NOT TOO EARLY TO DO YOUR HANUKKAH SHOPPING
Why not look around at our wonderful exhibits in the social hall and silent auction items on the ground floor Preschool lobby? Bid on your favorite items and support LimmudFest 2020. Bid Early. Bid Often.

LUNCH & LEARN
Eat your lunch while maximizing your learning experience! Bring your lunch along to these great sessions.


Shira Lishma—Contemporary American Jewish Music (Room M-08b). Dive into the inspiring, meaningful world of Contemporary American Jewish Music with songwriter, song leader, rabbinical student and student of American Jewish ethnomusicology, Jackson Mercer. Like learning Torah “Lishma,” for its own sake, we will spend the session singing recently composed songs, just for the joy of singing.

Building a Solidarity Economy—Tackling the Racial Wealth Gap (Room M-08a). The median net worth of a white family in Boston is $247K, while that of a black, US-born family is $8 (Federal Reserve). We will learn more about the origins of the racial wealth gap and introduce ways to support the Boston Ujima Project in building a more democratic and equitable economy.

Choose Life: Healing the Climate Can Happen (Room G-06). Engage with a panel on ways to Choose Life in response to the climate crisis. This dynamic group of presenters will offer positive responses to climate change using their expertise in sustainability and renewable energy, ecological economics, and our spiritual connection to the earth.

Jews and the Labor Movement—What’s Work Got to Do With It? (Room G-11). The connection between the Jewish communities and labor has always been important to the well-being of all communities and society. This workshop will share aspects of Jewish efforts within the Labor Movement’s past, present, current initiatives, and thoughts and plans for the future of labor.

Benjamin Franklin’s Influence on Jewish Thought and Practice (Room G-28). Find out how Benjamin Franklin’s self-improvement method became incorporated into the practical Jewish ethical tradition of mussar through the publication of Rabbi Mendel Lefin’s “Book of Spiritual Accounting,” and how rabbis and Judaic scholars have dealt with this surprising historical development.

Limmud for All – Join the Fun! (Lounge outside U-Mishkan Tefila Sanctuary). If you are enjoying today’s LimmudFest, join us at a ‘Join the Fun’ reception. Learn about the origins of Limmud International and ways you can help make our LimmudFest even better next year. LimmudFest volunteers have a great time and make a great team. Come and find out how you can be part of the fun, and enjoy a special dessert too!
10:10 AM - 11:10 AM  G-Preschool Lobby
It's Not Too Early To Do Your Hanukkah Shopping
Subject Area: Shopping
Why not look around at our wonderful exhibits in the social hall and silent auction items on the ground floor Preschool lobby? Bid on your favorite items and support LimmudFest 2020. Bid Early. Bid Often.

12:50 PM - 1:50 PM  Room M-08b
Shira Lishma - Contemporary American Jewish Music
Jackson Mercer
Subject Area: Arts & Culture, History & Politics, Prayer & Liturgy, Torah & Philosophy
Dive into the inspiring, meaningful world of contemporary American Jewish music with songwriter, song leader, rabbinical student, and student of American Jewish Ethnomusicology, Jackson Mercer. Like learning Torah “Lishma”, for its own sake, we will spend the session singing for the sake of singing, focusing on music that has emerged in the last five years out of one of the two prolific centers for Jewish songwriting, the American Jewish community.
Encore: Resources for further exploration of American Jewish music can be found on JacksonMercer.com

12:50 PM - 1:50 PM  Room G-06
Choose Life: Healing the Climate Can Happen
Katy Allen; Oliver Braunschweig; Greg Hersh; Harvey Michaels
Subject Area: Social Justice & Action (Diversity & Inclusivity), Science & Innovation
Engage with a panel on ways to ‘choose life’ in response to the climate crisis. This dynamic group of presenters will offer positive responses to climate change using their expertise in sustainability and renewable energy, ecological economics, and our spiritual connection to the earth.
Encore: www.jewishclimate.org

12:50 PM - 1:50 PM  Room G-28
Benjamin Franklin and Jewish Thought and Practice
Shai Afsai
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy, History & Politics
Find out how Benjamin Franklin’s self-improvement method became incorporated into the practical Jewish ethical tradition of mussar through the publication of Rabbi Mendel Lefin’s “Book of Spiritual Accounting,” and how rabbis and Judaic scholars have dealt with this surprising historical development.

12:50 PM - 1:50 PM  Room G-11
Jews and the Labor Movement - What’s Work Got to Do With It?
Ari Fertig; Amy Mazur
Subject Area: Social Justice & Action (Diversity & Inclusivity), History & Politics
The connection between the Jewish communities and labor has always been important to the well-being of all communities and society. This workshop will share aspects of Jewish efforts within the Labor Movement’s past, present, current initiatives, and thoughts and plans for the future of labor.

12:50 PM - 1:50 PM  Room U-13
Jewish Tales - Live!
Cindy Rivka Marshall; Thea Iberall; Judith Black; Jim Brule; David Finkelstein
Subject Area: Arts & Culture
Come be entertained, moved and delighted. The Jewish Storytelling Coalition presents four outstanding storytellers performing contemporary and traditional Jewish tales geared to adults. Judith Black, Jim Brule, Thea Iberall and David Finkelstein perform. Cindy Rivka Marshall as emcee.

Yes, the campus has free wi-fi!
User name: Guest384
Password: israel48!
**1:10 PM to 1:25 PM**

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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| 1:10 PM - 1:25 PM | U-Mishkan Tefila Sanctuary | **Orthodox Mincha Pickup Service**  
All are welcome for an Orthodox minyan (10 men required). Siddurim provided. |

**1:30 PM to 1:45 PM**

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<th>Event Description</th>
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| 1:30 PM - 1:45 PM | U-Mishkan Tefila Sanctuary | **Egalitarian Mincha Pickup Service**  
All are welcome for an Egalitarian service (men and women counted in the minyan). Siddurim provided. |

**2:00 PM to 3:00 PM**

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<th>Time</th>
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| 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Room G-06 | **Israel Activism: How to Take Effective Action and Get Results**  
Daniel Agranov; Karen Bar-Or; Simon Plosker; Hali Haber  
*Subject Area: Social Justice & Action (Diversity & Inclusivity)*  
We will introduce participants to the world of activism for Israel in the media, online, and on college campuses. Find out how to take effective action and get results. Moderated by Daniel Agranov, Deputy Consul General of Israel to New England, the panel includes, Karen Bar-Or from the Israeli American Council (IAC), Simon Plosker of HonestReporting, and Hali Haber of CAMERA.  
| 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | U-Mishkan Tefila Sanctuary | **Songs of Renewal: The Meshing of Liturgical and Secular Melodies to Lift the Soul**  
Jodi Blankstein; Adam Dehner  
*Subject Area: Arts & Culture*  
We will imbue topical songs by artists such Fleetwood Mac, Bob Marley, Paul McCartney, Sarah McLachlan and others into our program that mirror and preserve the significance of many of the prayers in our liturgy. In addition to serving as a tool for teaching the meaning behind many of our blessings, the intention of these songs of healing and light will leave you humming for days. |
| 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Room G-25 | **Speak, Memory: Creating Jewish Women's Oral History**  
Betsy More; Sarah Quiat  
*Subject Area: Social Justice & Action (Diversity & Inclusivity), Arts & Culture; Communities (Families, Parenting, etc.); History & Politics*  
Story Aperture is a new app for collecting and sharing the life stories of Jewish women. In this workshop, the Jewish Women’s Archive will share some of the vibrant stories we have received and empower you to use the app to preserve the singular experiences of women in your community.  
**Encore:** jwa.org/stories |
| 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Room G-28 | **Community Safety Strategies for Jewish Communities**  
Nadav David; Lena Shapiro; Jon Wishnie  
*Subject Area: Social Justice & Action (Diversity & Inclusivity)*  
In the last year, the Kavod Community Safety Team has developed systems and practices to keep our Jewish communities safe. Through interactive activities and group discussions, we will guide these difficult and timely conversations about our safety, and we will share how our work is rooted in social justice principles.  
**Encore:** Contact presenters for their Community Safety Needs template. |
| 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Room M-08a | **Writing What We Believe for Those We Love: Ethical Wills for the 21st Century**  
Bob Russman-Halperin  
*Subject Area: Mind, Body & Soul, Communities (Families, Parenting, etc.)*  
For centuries Jews have written ethical wills to share their values and life lessons with future generations. In this interactive workshop, we update the concept for the 21st Century, and use practical tools and the latest technologies to begin a rich conversation with our children and others. |
| 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Room G-19 | **When God Speaks in ‘Black English’ to Moshe Rabbenu**  
Davin Wolok  
*Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy*  
I Am That I Am. So, we are told, God names Himself to Moses at the burning bush. In this session we shall see how the Black English, I Be As I Be, better expresses the dynamism - and passionate movement into the future - suitable for a text devoted to the theme of liberation.  
**Encore:** Ehyeh by Arthur Green |
| 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Room G-11 | **Go Wish - A Card Game for the Home Stretch**  
Hal Miller-Jacobs; Arza Goldstein  
*Subject Area: Mind, Body & Soul*  
Go Wish provides an easy, entertaining way to explore and understand Judaic and other values, goals and preferences as one approaches end of life. In this session, we will use an innovative and engaging card game that will help make it easier for family and friends to understand and follow these wishes.  
**Encore:** Go Wish: A Tool for End-of-Life Care Conversations |
| 2:00 PM - 3:00 PM | Room G-27 | **Legacy-What Will They Say About You When You Are Gone? A Hearing Men's Voices Experience**  
Martin Paley  
*Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy*  
We do not have the advantage of seeing our own obituaries. But often, after you have attended funerals, you may think back as to how the deceased was remembered at the funeral or at the shiva minyan. We will be holding a Hearing Men's Voices, HMV, session in which we will create our own legacy. What will they say about you when you are gone? Reserved for 10 male attendees. |
2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  Room G-07
SPEAKING VOLUMES: An Exploration of the Power of Words
Naomi Gurt Lind
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy
Speaking Volumes: Along with Jewish Learners across the globe, we will explore the power of words. LimmudFest is proud to play a role in the Global Day of Learning, an international effort to encourage Jews around the world to study the same sources on the same day in their own way.
Encore: www.theglobalday.org/

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  Room G-16
Grandparenting in the Age of Diversity
Ruth Nemzoff
Subject Area: Communities (Families & Parenting)
It’s tough to be a Jewish Grandparent. Our kids are either too Jewish, or not Jewish enough. How do Grandparents navigate the tension between wanting to pass on the traditions they love and the theology they hold dear, and at the same time, respect their children’s choices for their grandchildren? This session will be interactive.
Encore: www.RuthNemzoff.com

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  Room U-13
Bibliodrama: Integrating Theater with Torah
Sally Grazi-Shatzkes
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy
In this workshop we will dive underneath the text of the Bible to breathe life into its characters. Through role play and embodiment we will explore the unwritten stories that lie beneath the surface of our traditional teachings. Learn how stepping into another’s shoes exercises our empathy muscle. This session was made possible with generous support from The Covenant Foundation.
Encore: www.sallygrazishatzkes.com/mywork

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  Room M-08b
The Shaping of the New Jew
Shoni Aronovich
Subject Area: Arts & Culture, History & Politics
In this session, we will explore how both visual and performance arts helped shape -- and challenge -- the constructions of the New Jews and their emerging state during the first, formative years of Israel’s existence.

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  G-KI Chapel
Oh My God! Theology in Israeli Women’s Midrash
Tamar Biala
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy
In this session, we will discuss midrashim written by contemporary Israeli women who offer varying strategies to deal with the horrifying question, is God involved or even in charge of patriarchy? We will read from texts in English.
Encore: www.myjewishlearning.com/the-torch/filling-the-missing-half-of-the-sacred-bookshelf/

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  Room G-07
Anti-Semitism: Origins and Today
David Bernat
Subject Area: Social Justice & Action (Diversity & Inclusivity)
We are witnessing a spike in Anti-Semitism at home and abroad. We will look at the origins of hostility to Jews and Judaism in the ancient world and its development over time - the phenomenon has not changed much since the beginning. This perspective can be useful in making sense of events today.

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  100 Centre Street B
A Chasidic Perspective & Practical Applications for 2019
Mayshe Schwartz
Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy
We will share a beginners overview on how Chasidism transforms and elevates the details of Judaism into a celebration. Torah, Mitzvot and Tikkun Olam, truly at the core, can upgrade our Motivation. Love your fellow neighbor as thyself. Is that really possible?

2:00 PM - 3:00 PM  G-Preschool Lobby
It’s Not Too Early To Do Your Hanukkah Shopping
Subject Area: Shopping
Why not look around at our wonderful exhibits in the social hall and silent auction items on the ground floor Preschool lobby? Bid on your favorite items and support LimmudFest 2020. Bid Early. Bid Often.

3:10 PM to 4:10 PM  Ground Level Lobby
Welcome Blanket
Hadassah Margolis
Subject Area: Arts & Culture
Welcome Blanket, a national craftivism project, re-conceptualizes the proposed 2000-mile concrete border wall into 2000 miles of yarn which welcomes immigrants and refugees into the US. Participants knit/crochet/sew/quilt blankets and write accompanying notes of welcome.

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  U-Mishkan Tefila Sanctuary
RSJ Community Performers – Music by Masters
Vladimir Foygelman; Marina Vinogradova; Sasha Stern; Janey David
Subject Area: Arts & Culture
Live Music Performance Presented by Center Makor.

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  Room M-04
Building a Movement for Justice for All: Challenging Anti-Semitism & White Nationalism
Ben Lorber; Mimi Arbeit
Subject Area: Social Justice & Action (Diversity & Inclusivity), History & Politics
How do we face today's frightening rise in anti-semitism, and how do we combat it? We will learn about anti-semitism in the white nationalist movement, and that voiced by right-wing politicians and media. We will hear from Jewish activists challenging anti-semitism and organizing for justice for all.
Encore: Article: Skin in the Game: How Antisemitism Animates White Nationalism
3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
**Room U-13**  
**Physics Class, Social Justice, and Tikkun Olam**  
Danny Siegel  
*Subject Area: Social Justice & Action (Diversity & Inclusivity)*  
Social Justice/Tzedek/Mitzvahs/Tikkun Olam. There is so much to be learned from our traditional texts about making the world a Menschlich place. In an extensive give-and-take, we will explore several of these texts - a few of which are ignored, never taught, or just off the beaten track.  
**Encore:** blogs.israel.com/author/danny-siegel/  

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
**Room G-25**  
**The Conversation: Why it is Important.**  
David Decter  
*Subject Area: Mind, Body & Soul*  
Why it is important for everyone to have advance planning in place for our deaths; and why must we share the appropriate directives with our loved ones and others?  

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
**Room G-16**  
**Flip the Script: The Truth About Intermarriage**  
Gladys Maged; Denise Handlarski  
*Subject Area: Communities (Families & Parenting), Social Justice/Action (Diversity/Inclusivity)*  
What if everything you ever heard about intermarriage is wrong? Research and experience show that intermarriage actually deepens Jewish commitment to Judaism, adds meaning to Jewish rituals and ceremonies, and ensures Jewish continuity! Come find out how and why.  
**Encore:** Denisehandlarski.com  

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
**Room G-06**  
**Dance and Exercise to Israeli Music**  
Francine Godfrey; Stacy Khalil  
*Subject Area: Mind, Body & Soul*  
Join us in this active session and move your body and your mind to the beat of Israeli music. Warm up with light stretching and balance exercises and progress to fun moves. We will end with gentle movements and a guided mediation. For all ages and abilities.  
**Encore:** www.2lifecomunities.org/why-2life/live-well  

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
**Room G-31**  
**The Kabbalistic Tree of Life**  
Jeff Foust  
*Subject Area: Mind, Body & Soul, Torah & Philosophy*  
Through guided visualization and self-directed movement we will unlock our personal creativity by directly and physically experiencing the 10 Sefirot/Energy centers of the Kabbalistic Tree of Life.  
**Encore:** elevationproject.com with Rav Doniel Katz  

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3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
**Room M-08a**  
**Is Gender Inequality a Biblical Mandate?**  
Judy Klitsner  
*Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy*  
To what degree do God’s words to woman in the Garden of Eden constitute a mandate of subjugation to all women for all time? Through a comparison of the narrative of Eve with that of Sarah, and several later biblical characters, we will note the recurrence of the phrase, “to your husband is your desire and he shall rule over you.” This is a difficult motif. What are signs of reexamination, and at times, reversal, of God’s pronouncements in the Garden?  
**Encore:** Subversive Sequels in the Bible How Biblical Stories Mine and Undermine Each Other  

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
**Room G-11**  
**Lilith: Recovery of an Ancient Israelite Demoness**  
Neal Gold  
*Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy*  
Legends and midrashim about Lilith are a fascinating entry into the demonic underbelly of early Jewish mythology. Her contemporary reclamation testifies to the way each generation infuses ancient traditions with new meaning. We’ll explore the primary texts of her legend and their meaning for today.  
**Encore:** www.nealgold.net  

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM  
**Room G-28**  
**Experiencing the 13 Attributes of God**  
Ora Weiss  
*Subject Area: Mind, Body & Soul, Prayer & Liturgy*  
Not just for prayer! The power of the 13 Attributes of God is ultimately a powerful guide to who we really are. Can we truly embody each of them? Come delve into the deeper meaning of each of these attributes. Part of the session will be experiential.  
**Encore:** You can read some of Rabbi Weiss’ teachings on her website: rabbioraweiss.com  

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Got Limmuditude? Pitch in!  
See signup sheets at the registration desk!  
This is a volunteer-driven organization!
3:10 PM - 4:10 PM Room M-08b

Immigration Stories from Boston’s Port
Stephanie Call

Subject Area: History & Politics

From its beginnings in 1904, the office of the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) in Boston, helped thousands of Jewish immigrants. Although some arrived with very little, they all arrived with a story. Hear some of these stories and learn how archivists are ensuring that these personal histories are not forgotten.

Encore: Finding aid: digifindingaids.cjh.org/?pID=365459
Vita-Brevis posts: vitabrevis.americanancestors.org/
author/crussell/
Digital Archive: digitalcollections.americanancestors.org/cdm/landingpage/collection/p15869coll25

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM Room G-19

Keeping Traditions after a Community Disperses
Velda Shaby

Subject Area: Communities (Families & Parenting)

We are Babylonian Jews, have lived in Bagdad for centuries and inherited a tradition stretching over 2,500 years. The Jewish community of Iraq is gone, and we are in other lands. But, we are still Babylonian Jews, our culture, language, synagogues and foods live on, and we keep the spirit of the community going.

Encore: thescribe.info

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM Room G-07

Giant Sea Creatures and Where To Find Them
Zoë Lang

Subject Area: Torah & Philosophy

Have you ever noticed the giant sea creatures in Chapter 1 of Genesis? Or wondered why the traditional blessing when leaving a sukkah involves a leviathan? Come and discover these and other giant sea creatures lurking in the Tanakh and a few scholarly theories about why they are there!

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM 100 Centre Street A

When I Was Small: Original Jewish Songs and Stories
Sandy Schuman

Subject Area: Arts & Culture

At this session, you'll be introduced to original songs and stories that enliven Jewish spirituality, culture, history, and identity. These songs breathe new life and meaning into prayers and psalms you know. Participants will receive a copy of the songbook, Songs of My Father’s.

Encore: Participants will receive a copy of the songbook Songs of My Father’s along with a link to my Adon Olam webpage which provides additional resources.

3:10 PM - 4:10 PM G-Preschool Lobby

It's Not Too Early To Do Your Hanukkah Shopping
Stephanie Call

Subject Area: Shopping

Why not look around at our wonderful exhibits in the social hall and silent auction items on the ground floor Preschool lobby? Bid on your favorite items and support LimmudFest 2020. Bid Early. Bid Often.
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LimmudBoston honors the core values of Limmud everywhere:

We celebrate learning, diversity, community, and involvement. We honor tradition and explore our Jewish horizons. We value all members of the community. We foster connections and we encourage participation.
Donate and Buy

Why Volunteers & Presenters Pay to Attend Limmud: All around the globe, volunteer-driven Limmud organizations ask for both time and money from all attendees, volunteers, and presenters alike. We rely on those who are willing to give of their time to make the event possible and who ultimately come to feel a keen sense of ownership over the festival. But time alone does not cover the costs of creating LimmudFest; we must also ask for money.

Support LimmudBoston:
Your donations will help make us bigger and better! Go to www.LimmudBoston.org to make a much-needed and appreciated gift.

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We Want Your Feedback

Please complete our online evaluation as soon as possible after the festival. Watch your email for details.

www.LimmudBoston.org

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Champagne & Sweets Reception

Let's Toast LimmudFest!

LimmudBoston would like to personally thank our very special volunticipants, each of whom gave of their time and talent to plan LimmudFest 2019 and make the day such a success. Your enthusiasm and dedication are what make it all possible!

Please join us tomorrow evening to share, schmooze, and gain insights into how we can make Limmudfest 2020 another very special day of community and learning!

Monday, November 18th • 7:30 pm
Temple Emanuel, Newton
Diana Abadi came to the United States three years ago from her hometown Bogota, Colombia. She has been an active member of Limmud Bogota and the Limmud international community for several years and she has presented in several Limmuds in Latin America.

Len Abram has taught writing and authored three novels, along with many articles. His older brother, an amateur boxer, introduced him to the sport.

Rachel Adelman (Ph.D. Hebrew University of Jerusalem) is currently an associate professor of Hebrew Bible in the rabbinical program at Hebrew College in Boston. She published two books and when not writing articles, or divrei torah, it is poetry that flows from her pen.

Melissa Adleman, Cantor, holds a Bachelor of Arts in Jewish Studies from McGill, cum laude, and a Master of Sacred Music & Cantorial Ordination from Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. In 2019 she earned a PhD in Educational Studies from Lesley University.

Shai Afsai lives in Providence, RI. His recent research has focused on the writings of Thomas Paine, Jews and Freemasonry, religious traditions of the Beta Yisrael Jewish community from Ethiopia, Judaism in Nigeria, aliyah to Israel from RI, Jewish pilgrimage to Ukraine, and Jews and Irish literature.

Daniel Agranov. Deputy Consul General of Israel to New England, brings to his position more than a decade of experience in Foreign Service. He has been a member of Israel’s Ministry of Foreign Affairs since 2008, previously serving in embassies and consulates in Europe, Asia and Africa.

Katy Allen is the founder and rabbi of Ma’yam Tikvah - A Wellspring of Hope, and the co-founder and President of Jewish Climate Action Network-MA. She is a board certified chaplain and a former healthcare chaplain and now considers herself an eco-chaplain.

Marina Aptekman lectures at Tufts University. She coordinates the Russian language program and teaches courses in Russian language and culture and Russian-Jewish studies.

Mimi Arbeit is a Jewish queer femme writer, teacher, researcher, and organizer who loves to dance. She moved back to Boston in 2018 from Charlottesville, Virginia where she connected with a broad array of local community members fighting white supremacy. She is active in Kavod.

Shoni Aronovich was born and raised in Tel Aviv, and studied Jewish philosophy and history at TAU. Shoni taught Jewish studies both in Israel and in the States, and is currently the director of teen education at Congregation Beth El in Sudbury.

Shelly Aronson is co-founder and worship leader at Shir Hamakom, a music worship chavurah in central Connecticut. Shelly is a past presenter and performer at LimmudBoston. She has partnered with songwriter Arnie Davidson extensively. Shelly’s unique interpretation and soothing alto voice welcomes worshipers to prayer through contemporary and traditional song.

Aliza Aziz is a home care speech therapist and long-time member of Havurat Shalom of Somerville MA. She loves researching questions about Biblical Hebrew and often discovers new insights. In her free time she enjoys making pottery, keeping geckos, and practicing aikido.

Karen Bar-Or is the Activism Manager at the Israeli American Council (IAC), where her main focus is combating antisemitism and anti-Israel bias in the Greater Boston area. Karen has an extensive background in activism, community building and informal education.

David Bernat is the Executive Director of The Synagogue Council of MA. He has a PhD in Bible and Ancient Judaism from Brandeis University, and is the co-editor of Religion and Violence: The Biblical Heritage. Bernat is a long-time Mea’ah faculty member and is active in the arena of adult learning.

Tamar Biala engages with Jewish feminism as a writer and lecturer. She has a BA in Jewish Studies and Literature and MA in Women’s Studies and Jewish Studies. She co-edited Dirshuni: Midrashei Nashim, first-ever collection of midrashim by contemporary Israeli women.

Judith Black New perspectives on history, familial dysfunction, aging, our disintegrating environment; all fodder for Judith’s tales. Featured at the Montreal Comedy Festival, many CAJE’s, The Smithsonian Institution, 13 times at National Storytelling Festival, and winner of the Oracle and Brother Blue Awards.

Jodi Blankstein is the Cantorial Soloist at Congregation B’nai Torah in Sudbury. She brings sacred song and spirit to Jewish Lifecycle events. Jodi received her certificate in Jewish liturgical music from Hebrew College in June of 2010.

Ellina Blinder is a classically trained pianist from the Hartt School of Music and New England Conservatory. She performs solo and in various ensembles in the US and Europe. Ms. Blinder was born in Lvov, Ukraine and moved to the US as a teenager.

Oliver Braunschweig is a PhD student in Economics at the New School with a focus on Ecological Economics, History, and Money & Banking. Environmentalism has long been an important part of his identity, and he has co-founded a student organization focused on sustainability in economics and management.

Josh Breindel, rabbi, serves at Congregation Beth El, Sudbury. He holds master’s degrees in Jewish studies and Jewish education and was ordained at Hebrew College. He is fascinated by Jewish folklore and storytelling and has a passion for speculative fiction.

Maggid Jim Brule has been deeply engaged in spiritual storytelling for decades and leads a faculty seminar on the topic. His online school for multi-faith spiritual storytellers is in its fourth year. He received S’micha as a Maggid from Yitzhak Buxbaum in 2009.

Stephanie Call is the Associate Director of Archives and Education at the Wyner Family Jewish Heritage Center at New England Historic Genealogical Society where she oversees archival collections, educational programming, content, and outreach activities.

Documentary photographer Diane Covert built the pogrom installation from an archive of rare photographs. The work speaks to Eastern European Jewish history, immigration, war atrocities and the history of photography.

Center Makor proudly presents our special guest and friend, vocalist, Janey David. A talented singer, writer and performer, Janey covers a variety of musical genres ranging from R&B, Soul, Blues, Jazz, Pop and Dancehall, to Hip-hop and Reggae.
Nadav David is a volunteer organizer with Kavod, as the community’s Grassroots Partnerships Chair and a co-facilitator of the JOCISM caucus. He also works full-time as a financial coach supporting families living in subsidized housing to achieve their goals.

Arnie Davidson is a singer/songwriter of contemporary Jewish worship music. He has released four albums. He has taught and performed at MANAJE, NewCAJE, Limmud in Boston, NY, Philadelphia, and the UK. He is co-founder of Shir Hamakom, a music worship chavurah based in central CT.

Fred Davis is VP of JCAN, offering webinars to reduce synagogue carbon. A professional in clean energy since 1978, he is former president of Urban Solar Energy Assoc. and received the 2019 NESEA Lifetime Achievement Award.

David Decter was born in Boston and has lived here for the past 75 years. Married to Carole for 53 years, they are blessed with two sons and five loving grandchildren. David is Past President of Temple Emeth and is a current member of Congregation Kehillath Israel.

Adam Dehner (acoustic guitar) is a professional musician and educator. Adam has co-led worship and concert performances with Cantorial Soloist Jodi Blankstein for the past ten years – both in synagogues and throughout the Boston area.

Miriam Rosalyn Diamond, Ph.D., is an educator and author whose plays have been read and performed in diverse settings. She recently learned of her own family’s connection to the Birds’ Head Haggadah.

Mark Elber, rabbi of Temple Beth El, in Fall River, MA, has an MFA in Poetry from Warren Wilson College, and is a prize-winning poet, songwriter, and author.


David Finkelstein is the rabbi and spiritual leader of Temple Beth Israel in Waltham, MA. His primary storytelling influences are Maggid Yitzchak Buxbaum (teacher), Syd Lieberman, The Story Space and its founder (Brother Blue), and the Northeast Storytelling Conference, Sharing the Fire. David was ordained by Hebrew College Rabbinical School in 2014. He and his wife Rabbi Sara Meirowitz are the parents of two young children, Rafi and Libi.

Jeff Foust is a rabbi, a Jewish Chaplain and a Mindfulness Meditation Coordinator for the Spiritual Life Center at Bentley University. He is a long time student and teacher of Kabbalah, emphasizing embodied spirituality, where one learns to breathe, live, and dance Kabbalah into our daily lives.

Vladimir Foygelman is a professional choreographer and dance performer. Vladimir well known for his dedication to traditional Klezmer/Yiddish dances and Jewish dances from around the world.

Irene Frielich is the daughter of a German Holocaust survivor who did not share much about his ordeal. In 2017, when she rediscovered the testimony video her father recorded just before his death in 1994, Irene began researching and then visited the German and Dutch locations.

Sidney Gelb is Legislative Representative on the Board of Directors of NAMI Newton Wellesley. Sid is a trained Family Support facilitator and teacher for the Family to Family Course and the NAMI Basics course. He has an MS from the City College of New York and lives in Brookline, Massachusetts.

Beri Gilfix, an author, is a granddaughter of the founder of the Adams Street Shul. She has served the congregation as president, secretary and chief fundraiser for over thirty years. Beri is a lifelong resident of Newton.

Joey Glick is third year rabbinical student at Hebrew College and a member of the Community Hevra Kadisha of Greater Boston.

Neal Gold, a rabbi, teaches for Me ‘ah, a Hebrew College program, and serves as Jewish Chaplain & Hillel Director at Babson College. He is currently President of the Massachusetts Board of Rabbis.

Arza Goldstein, Birth Doula, Hospice nurse. A community organizer and most recently, an End of Life Doula, Arza helps those with serious illness and at end of life, and their families, make this time less stressful and more meaningful.

Mitch Gordon is a mediator, meditation guide and teacher, and a conflict resolution specialist. He has trained and taught at the Harvard Program on Negotiation, Conflict Management Group, The World Food Programme in Rome, The World Bank, the Israeli-Palestinian Negotiating Partners program, and synagogues, courts, and other places were disputes can be found. He is also a professional drummer.

My name is Elizabeth Gray. I am 24 years old. I have spastic cerebral palsy and a learning disability. I recently received my associate degree in Human Services. My goal is to work within the disability community as an advocate. I hope to impact change through policy, providing resources to those with all abilities so they can live independently. For me my synagogue is a place where I feel part of a community. It was the first place that was willing to address my learning differences and help me through my Matzvah. Hebrew was a battle for me but one of my proudest moments was standing in front of my family and friends and reading from the torah. I will always feel grateful for their patience and kindness.

Sally Grazi-Shatzkes is a Drama Therapist with over 15 years in the field, innovating creative arts based counseling programs and spearheading creative approaches in Jewish education, such as the Witness Theater program. She is a 2019 Covenant Award recipient. Her participation was made possible with generous support from The Covenant Foundation.

Rector of Hebrew College Rabbinical School, Art Green previously taught at Brandeis and Penn, and headed the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College. He has published many books, including Radical Judaism. He received his BA and PhD from Brandeis, and an MHL and rabbinic ordination from Jewish Theological Seminary.

Judy Greene created a unique Jewish sex ethics course combining modern thought with Jewish content and has been teaching it for the past 30 years. A graduate of Rutgers University with a BA in Hebraic Studies, Judy has an MSW from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work, Yeshiva University, Certification in Jewish Family Life Education from Hebrew College, University of Hartford, and Certification in teaching sexual education in public schools. She is also a founder of Mayyim Hayyim, the community mikvah and resource center of Boston.

Eric Gurvis, rabbi, was ordained at HUC-JIR and has served congregations in NYC, Jackson, MS, Teaneck, NJ; and Newton, MA. He is currently rabbi of Shaarei Shalom in Ashland, MA. Eric also works with The Mussar Institute directing the CHAVERIM Initiative and facilitates Mussar groups in the Boston area.
Hali Haber is the Director of Campus Programming and Strategic Relationships for CAMERA. Hali manages the CAMERA on Campus team in the US, and works to advise and educate students. She loves teaching hands-on techniques to help Israel campus groups succeed.

Denise Handlarski, a rabbi, serves the Toronto-based Oraynu Congregation for Humanistic Judaism and the online community SecularSynagogue.com.

Greg Hersh spent a year in Southeast Asia living in a Buddhist monastery and studying Tai Chi before entering rabbinical school. He is a TorahTrek-certified Jewish Wilderness Guide and attended outdoor retreats at Tom Brown Jr.’s Tracker School. He is the Rabbi at Temple Emmanuel of Wakefield.

Thea Iberall is a shimmering bridge between heart and mind. An inductee into the International Educators Hall of Fame, she is featured in the documentary Poets, Passion and Poetry. Thea’s stories springboard from the personal into moral issues, scientific questions, and emotional truths.

Yael Kanarek is a visual artist and jewelry designer, with exhibits in prestigious galleries. She is a recipient of fellowships with the Rockefeller New Media grant, Eyebeam, and The Laboratory for Jewish Culture. She created the Regendered Bible in response to the void of women-centered sacred text.

Cindy Katzeff, JD, Director of Village Centers & Community Engagement at 2Life Communities, designs programs that develop relationships between residents at four campuses and with the larger community. Along with creating village centers, hubs of activity and meaningful engagement for seniors to combat social isolation.

Fredie Kay, Esq., is the Founder & President, Women’s Suffrage Celebration Coalition of MA; Votes for Women National Trail Committee, and National Collaborative of Women’s History Sites. Fredie is on the Board of Directors, for the Jewish Community Relations Council; Advisory Committee, Jewish Alliance for Law & Social Action.

Alexander Kaye is an Asst. Prof. of Israel Studies at Brandeis University with a Ph.D. in Jewish history from Columbia, B.A., M.Phil. from Cambridge, and ordination from Yeshivat Chovevei Torah Rabbinical School. He studies and publishes on Jewish intellectual, political and legal history.

Stacy Khalil is Fitness/Wellness Geriatric Specialist Manager with 2Life Communities.

Judy Kitlinski is a senior educator at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies; is the founding board chair of Sacred Spaces, an organization that addresses abuses of power in Jewish institutions; and is author of Subversive Sequels in the Bible: How Biblical Stories Mine and Undermine Each Other.

Simona Lang has been the Social Justice Chair of Kavod for three years, supporting several teams and leading the communal vision of justice work. She works full-time as an infectious disease epidemiologist at the MA Department of Public Health.

Zoë Lang is an active member of the Orthodox community in Cambridge, MA and the special events coordinator for the Open Beit Midrash. She has taught a course on the Talmud for Shalom Maine and has spoken at various synagogues in Boston.

Sarah Langer has been a leader in the Kavod community for several years, from serving as the Board President to leading the social justice work. After teaching high school math and coaching new math teachers in Boston for 11 years, she is now teaching math at the Jewish Community Day School in Watertown.

Julie Leavitt is a dancer, body oriented psychotherapist and spiritual director. She is in private practice, works at Hebrew College, and teaches at Lesley University. She dances with Selmadanse and Back Pocket Dancers.

Noreen Leibson has been a Jewish educator for 30 years. Most of her professional life has been in a synagogue supplementary school serving as Education Director. She enjoys learning and teaching Torah through a creative lens. She lives with her husband, Mitch, in Nashua, NH, with their two daughters.

Bruce J. Levy, AIA is an architect in private practice in NY. He also teaches History of Architecture and in particular The Art & Architecture of Jewish Culture, which deals with the history of synagogues, Jewish memorials, museums and individual Jewish artists and architects.

Benyamin Lichtenstein has been playing clarinet for over 50 years; he davens musically every Shabbat at Beth El Sudbury, and with his two favorite musicians, Joel and Mitch. “I am blessed with the gift of hearing Gd’s song; honored and humbled as I aim to bring it into musical form.” He is also a professor of Entrepreneurship at UMass Boston.

Naomi Gurt Lind is a rabbinical student at Hebrew College, in pursuit of her fourth and hopefully final career. She has studied at Hadar and DLTI and has a consultancy on community engagement. In her free time she hangs out with her two genius boys, solves crossword puzzles, and bakes a legendary challah.

Ben Lorber works at Political Research Associates (PRA), a social justice think tank in Somerville, as a Research Analyst focusing on antisemitism and white nationalism. He lives in Jamaica Plain with his partner and two cats, attends Nehar Shalom, and is active in Kavod.

Gladys Maged is the Managing Director of Kahal B’raira, the Humanistic Jewish Congregation of Greater Boston. Her work includes building all aspects of her vibrant congregation. She works to create many different pathways into the Jewish community so that everyone can find a place there.

Hadassah Margolis is a social worker & Lead Therapist at McLean’s Spirituality & Mental Health Dept., where she helped develop the hospital’s first-ever Spirituality & Treatment groups. She is also a clinician at Brandeis University.

Award-winning performer of folktales and personal stories, Cindy Rivka Marshall consults, trains and coaches congregations, schools, organizations and individuals to “reach, teach and change with stories.” She has been a presenter at Limmud UK, National Storytelling Network Conferences, multiple story slam winner.

Amy Mazur is on the Board of the New England Jewish Labor Committee. Amy represents the Jewish Labor Committee as a supporting organization of the MA Coalition of Domestic Workers, and is a Committee Member of Hand in Hand. In her spare time, she works at Jewish Vocational Service.

Jackson Mercer, a rabbinical student at Hebrew College, has been music director at Asiyah Jewish Community and head shadchan at Unorthodox Celebrations. He’s now partnering with Binah Designs creating intentional Judaica (Hiddur Mitzvah) and is creating an album of original music, set for spring release.

Harvey Michaels is a Lecturer in Energy and Climate Innovation at the MIT Sloan Sustainability Initiative. He formerly led efficiency companies Aclara Software and Xenergy and is a climate innovation advisor to Carbon-free Boston, Cambridge Net Zero, and Boston Interfaith Environmental Justice.
Hal Miller-Jacobs created and taught about user-friendly software and websites. He now wants to make Torah, Tefilah and Tahara more accessible. He graduated from the Davening Leadership Training Institute, teaches at Tufts University and co-founded the Community Hevra Kadisha of Greater Boston.

Betsy More is the Director of Programs at JWA. A historian of women and gender in the U.S., she has taught widely on the history and culture of work, motherhood, family, and race in America.

Jim Morgan serves as rabbi/chaplain and Russian-speaking Chaplain for Center Communities of Brookline, a Supportive Housing Community. He is also the rabbi for the Worship and Study Minyan at Harvard Hillel, which serves the university and the larger community.

Adele Moss is a birth doula and a member of the Community Hevra Kadisha of Greater Boston, an organization that performs and educates Boston-area Jews about Jewish burial practices.

Dan Moss lives in Ashland, MA. He enjoys his independence, including living in his own apartment and driving and owning his own car; but is grateful for the support he receives from his family. Dan attends Temple Beth Shalom in Framingham and is an active member of many groups in the Jewish Community. He loves attending Stars of David at Temple Emanuel in Newton, Yachad Bowling and Pizza and Parsha and Chaverim Chaim: Friends for Life (a project of JF&CS).

Ruth Nemzoff is author of Don’t Roll Your Eyes: Making In-Laws Into Family and Don’t Bite Your Tongue: How to Foster Rewarding Relationships With Your Adult Children. She is a resident scholar at Brandeis University Women’s Studies Research Center.

Martin Paley has facilitated Hearing Men’s Voices for over 15 years, leading sessions locally, nationally and internationally. Hearing Men’s Voices creates intimacy among men through dialogue, creating conversations to connect Jewish men in a safe and nurturing environment.

Elana Kling Perkins, LICSW, has lived, studied and worked in the Jewish community throughout her life. One of her favorite activities is studying a new aspect of the seder and sharing what she has learned with others.

Jennifer (Kohanim) Pittleman has been living in Brookline for the past three years and is originally from Great Neck, NY. She works in public relations and social media marketing at global agency FleishmanHillard and helps her clients tell their brand stories and protect their reputation.

Simon Plosker is Managing Editor of HonestReporting, the largest global grassroots organization defending Israel from media bias where he has worked since 2005. Originally from London, Simon has degrees from Birmingham University and the London School of Economics, and made Aliyah to Israel in 2001.

Marcia Plumb, rabbi of Congregation Mishkan Tefila has studied and taught Mussar for 25 years. In London, she was a congregational & day school rabbi. She founded and directed the Spiritual Formation program at Leo Baecck College. She led the first annual Boston Mussar conference last year.

Sarah Quiat is Program Manager at JWA, where she manages the Rising Voices Fellowship. She is a recent alum of Vassar College and spent the last year as the Education and Translation Fellow at the Yiddish Book Center in Amherst, MA.

Margie Klein Ronkin, rabbi kohenet, is the founder of Kovod, a 600-strong Jewish community committed to building a liberated world for all people. She serves as Director of Clergy and Leadership Development for www.ecoaction.org, the Essex County Community Organization.

Bob Russman-Halperin received an ethical will from his grandfather, has written legacy letters to his children, and has led many workshops on this topic. Bob led executive education programs at Harvard Business School, MIT, and Babson, and is a Young Presidents Organization facilitator.

Amy L. Sales, Ph.D., social psychologist, studies Jewish organizations and their role in creating Jewish life. She was principal investigator on Innovating JCCs, a project of the Cohen Center for Modern Jewish Studies at Brandeis University.

Linda Yaël Schiller is a mind/body/spiritual psychotherapist and dream worker. She consults and teaches on dreamwork, integrated trauma treatments, and group work and has published extensively. Her first book, Modern Dreamwork: New Tools for Decoding Your Soul’s Wisdom, is due out 12/8/19.

Original songs with English, Hebrew, and Yiddish lyrics add a delightful dimension to Sandy Schuman’s educational and entertaining performances. A winner of the St. Louis Jewish Storytelling Contest, his stories have been published in Tablet, New Mitzvah Stories, Welcome to Chelm’s Pond, and more.

Mayshe Schwartz was born and raised in West LA, Smicha in Israel & moved with his amazing wife Shifra to Brookline in 2004. They founded the Chai Center and YJP Boston to serve young adults. He brings his spirited Jewish vibe to young adults wherever they are and has officiated over 100 weddings.

Ros Schwartz is a Jewish composer, performer, and founder & director of the Kingston Jewish Choir. Her music has been described as nourishing, inspiring, & healing. A Family Physician and psychotherapist, Ros believes music and medicine flow from the same healing source.

Joel Segel plays and sings his own compositions at Beth El Sudbury, Temple Sinai Brookline, the ALEPH Kallah, and Shabbat by the Creek. He co-authored two books with Rabbi Zalman Schachter-Shalomi: Jewish with Feeling, listed among Publishers Weekly’s Best Spiritual Books of the year; and winning a National Jewish Book Award.

Natasha Shabat is an independent scholar, writer, and photographer, based in Concord, MA, who teaches Biblical & Modern Hebrew to adults. She is currently writing a book on Hebrew education at Harvard in the 19th century. She has a B.A. from Harvard in Near Eastern Languages & Civilizations.

Velda Shaby is a Babylonian Jew born in Baghdad, she left in 1950. She grew up in Iran, part of an Iraqi Jewish Community. Her adult life has been raising three kids, learning how to be flexible enough in interpreting traditions to pass them along to her kids.

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LimmudBoston relies on those who are willing to give of their time and feel a keen sense of ownership over the festival. But time alone does not cover the costs of creating LimmudFest; we must also ask for money. Please visit our website www.limmudboston.org and be as generous as you can.

Thank you!

www.limmudboston.org
Leann Shamash is a Jewish educator. Through her career she has worked in both formal and informal Jewish educational settings. More recently Leann has been pursuing photography, writing and the art of movement. She was recently certified from the Leven Institute in “Shake Your Soul” training.

Lena Shapiro works full-time on juvenile justice issues in MA and is trained in facilitating restorative justice circles.

Aaron Shub, rabbi at Congregation Shaarey Tphiloh, a Modern Orthodox synagogue in Portland, ME. He is the director of Jewish life and learning at Levey Day School. He has a Masters of Education from the University of Judaism, and received semikha from Yeshivat Chovevei Torah.

Danny Siegel is an author, poet, and lecturer who has spoken on Mitzvahs, Tzedakah, and Tikkun Olam in 400 Jewish communities in North America. He is a 1993 Covenant Award Winner and in April 2020 will publish, Radiance - Creative Mitzvah Living, The Selected Prose and Poetry of Danny Siegel.

Sandy Slavet holds a Master of Education and has served as the Director of Jewish Life Services for People with Disabilities and the Director of the Disabilities Resource Network at Jewish Family & Children’s Services. Sandy is currently chairperson of the Temple Sinai of Sharon Inclusion Steering Committee.

Jason Skolnick, principal at First National Corporation, is past president of Kehillath Israel in Brookline and current board member of Solomon Schechter Day School of Greater Boston.

Frankie Snyder holds a BS in Math from Virginia Tech in 1970 & MAJS from Hebrew College in 2000. Making aliyah in 2007, she is an archaeologist in Israel specializing in reconstructing geometric-patterned opus sectile floors used by King Herod in his palaces and on the Temple Mount.

Mark Sokoll, the President and CEO of JCC Greater Boston, is a lifelong Jewish community advocate, activist and educator.

Leah Solodokin hails from Brooklyn, NY and has been living in Brookline, MA for the past three years. She is an oncology pharmacist and an Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice. Leah is passionate about helping others in need and giving back to her community.

Eri Solomon is a Jewish educator, community organizer, and harm reduction activist. Their background includes work with synagogues, Hillel, youth organizations, and social justice campaigns. They believe fundamentally in a vision for a just society that is equitable, intersectional, and shared.

Toba Spitzer is the spiritual leader of Congregation Dorshoi Tzedek in West Newton, and currently serves on the Executive Board of the Massachusetts Board of Rabbis. A rabbi, educator, writer and activist for peace and social justice, Toba has a life goal of bowling in all 50 states. She is currently up to 31.

Sasha Stern began her musical education at the age of 5. She is a third generation professional musician. When Sasha was 8, she won a prestigious Piano Competition dedicated to the music of J. S. Bach. She holds a BA and Master’s Degree in musicology, composition, history, and music theory. She taught a course in Jazz ensemble and arrangement at the Rostov College of Music for 13 years.

Marie Strazzulla is 33 years old and is very proud of her many accomplishments including reading Torah at her Bat Mitzvah. She works part-time at Home Goods and attends the CHAI Works Day Support Program. She speaks at area Jewish Day Schools to share her experiences growing up Jewish. And she happens to have Down Syndrome.

Howard D. Trachtman, BS, CPS, CPRP, COAPS, is co-founder and on the executive team of Metro Boston Recovery Learning Community. A Certified Peer Specialist and Psychiatric Rehabilitation Practitioner, Howard is co-founder of the NAMI Greater Boston Peer Support and Advocacy Network. He has received many awards for his work.

Marina Vinogradova is a jazz singer, songwriter and arranger based in Boston, MA. She was born in Saratov, Russia and since her teens she’s been a participant of different jazz festivals and competitions. In 2018 she graduated from Berklee College of Music, and today she’s a touring musician, performing all over the world with small ensembles and big bands.

Ben Weilerstein is a JOIN for Justice alum who has spent several years organizing in the climate, labor, and immigrant justice movements.

Talia Weisberg is a student at the Beit Midrash Program of Yeshivat Maharat. She wrote her Harvard College honors thesis about the Bais Yaakov movement and the evolution of Orthodox women's formal religious education. Talia also serves on the board of the Orthodox Minyan at Harvard Hillel.

Ora Weiss shares the universal and empowering readings she has found in Torah, going beyond traditional rabbinical interpretations. Ora terms this Restorative Judaism; restoring ancient wisdom, each human’s knowledge of who we really are, and our direct connection with Source.

Jon Wishnie works as a climate justice organizer with the Better Futures Project/350 Mass and recently completed the JOIN for Justice fellowship, after several years in the outdoor education field.

Davin Wolok is the Hazzan Sheni of Temple Emeth. He has taught Jewish thought at Hebrew College and is an author.

Hold the Date:
Sunday, November 15, 2020
at the 384 Harvard Campus

Session Proposal Deadline:
May 15, 2020

Mark Your Calendars For LimmudFest 2020!

Everyone attends as a learner and anyone may propose a session. Session Proposals for LimmudFest 2020 are due no later than May 15, 2020.
Mazel Tov
to
Our Hero:
Steffi

Visionary Founder, Innovator, and Motivator
We are inspired by your
deep commitment to Jewish lifelong learning
With love,
Eric, Josh & Kiki, Dan, Adam & Rachel
Ten Years.

We are so proud of our sister, mother, wife, daughter and friend, Steffi, who dedicated her creativity and passion to Boston’s Jewish community by establishing Limmud Boston.

For ten years, Steffi’s intelligence and singular focus brought an engaging day of Jewish learning to our lives.

We were inspired by the discussion & debate, the humor, art, politics, music & food, all grounded by and linked to Judaism.

To the kind, smart and generous woman we love and respect …

Brava & Todah Rabah!

The Aronson Family
Dad • Lisa • Sandy • Michael • Rebecca • Nancy
LimmudBoston has grown to be what it is, in large part, because of the efforts of Steffi Karp. Nothing compares to the passion and excitement she brings to Limmud.

I met Steffi before the first LimmudBoston. She brought me into the planning. Her energy and enthusiasm encouraged me and many others to dive in, believe and commit to the “cause.”

We celebrate the gifts you have given, the hours you have worked on making sure every detail was correct and your lifeblood in providing this learning opportunity for EVERYONE in the community.

I am so glad to call Steffi my friend and to have met her in that swimming pool over 10 years ago!

Love, Wendy
Todah Raba Steffi!

The real Chanukah Miracle is that one candle can light many others without losing any of its own light.

Meet Rabbi Denise Handlarski at our table in the Exhibit Hall

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Pre-K to 9 | Bar/Bat Mitzvah Study | Youth Group | Adult Education

Dear Steffi,

I’ve long admired your accomplishments through many years.....but your founding and serving as director par excellence of Limmud Boston tops them all.

Mazel tov!

Love,

Tante Helene

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Synagogue Council of Massachusetts

Kol Hakavod to Steffi and LimmudBoston
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Congregation Beth El of the Sudbury River Valley congratulates LimmudFest for an amazing program and outstanding speakers, including our own Rabbi Josh Breindel and Youth Director Shoni Aronovich, plus members Linda Yael Schiller, Joel Segel, Julie Leavitt and Benyamin Lichtenstein. Our innovative congregation is welcoming new members. Check us out at www.bethelsudbury.org
Mazel Tov!

Susan Rosenberg and Matthew Klionsky

“Some people want it to happen. Some wish it would happen. Others make it happen.”

(Michael Jordan)

CONGRATULATIONS STEFFI !!

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To Steffi,
For your leadership in engaging the minds and nourishing the souls of so many at LimmudBoston for the past ten years.
Yasher koach and mazel tov!

Thanks to Steffi Aronson Karp’s vision and her understanding of the importance of storytelling. The Jewish Storytelling Coalition has been proud to present storytellers at every LimmudBoston.

The Jewish Storytelling Coalition - a national network where performing storytellers and audiences find one another

www.jewishstorytelling.org
Thank you Steffi for bringing us LimmudBoston, and for your brilliant vision and leadership!
The Rashi School is pleased to support LimmudBoston.

Steffi - Mazel Tov on all that you have accomplished with LimmudBoston!
Love from your family in Evanston,
The Hamilton-Rosenbergs!

Kol ha kavod to my Limmud sister,
Steffi Karp,
for what you've built in Boston.
Nina Rubin
WHEN YOU MIX UP A CAMPER AND A JEW

THE RESULT IS A RICH TSIMMES STEW,

CHICKEN SOUP FOR OUR SOULS

YOU ACHIEVED YOUR HIGH GOALS!

BUT LIMMUD WON’T BE THE SAME, STEFF, WITHOUT YOU!

KIM ROSENFIELD

Happy 10th Anniversary, LimmudBoston.

Congratulations to Steffi A. Karp for bravely birthing, kindly nurturing, gently guiding, and professionally launching a Jewish learning festival with head and heart.

Lydia Kenin

In honor of Steffi Aronson Karp

Robert & Iris Fanger Family Foundation
We are thrilled to honor you for 10 years of Boston LimmudFest’s growth and success. We look forward to many more years of friendship.

Caroly, Lyn, and Pam

Warmest regards to a powerhouse woman who makes things happen.

John Holohan & Sharon Gorberg

Steffi Aronson Karp!

We are thrilled to honor you for 10 years of Boston LimmudFest’s growth and success.

We look forward to many more years of friendship.

Carolyn, Lyn, and Pam

Congratulations to a Great Friend.

All the Honors are so well deserved!

Bruce Levy

Dear Steffi,

Kol Hakavod!

Love,

Joel and Jane
TEMPLE EMANUEL

Temple Emanuel of Newton wants to thank Steffi for her 10 years of leadership of LimmudBoston!
STEFFI -

THANK YOU FOR CREATING LIMMUDBOSTON AND MAKING IT HAPPEN.
YOUR ENERGY AND PASSION INSPIRE US!

BARBARA POSNICK AND CARL MIKKELSEN

Kol Hakavod to Steffi and LimmudBoston
From your friends at FENWAY GROUP

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PROMOTION
DESIGN
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VIDEO
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FENWAY GROUP

MAZAL TOV STEFFI!
FROM STUFFING KALLAH REG PACKETS TO LIMMUDBOSTON - YOUR HANDS WORK MIRACLES!
WITH LOVE,
BARBARA AND LARRY

Mark Your Calendars For LimmudFest 2020!

Next year’s festival will be held on November 15, 2020 at the 384 Harvard Campus. Everyone attends as a learner and anyone may propose a session.

Session Proposals for LimmudFest 2020 are due no later than May 15, 2020.
Dearest Steffi

On this joyous occasion
We celebrate all your accomplishments

- With admiration -

Patty & Joel Ellis

Rabbi Lev & Joyce Friedman
Thanks Steffi, for all you've done for the Jewish community!

Karen Cutler & Andy Gold
Steffi - You make the world better!

David & Heidi Shear
Congratulations Steffi!

Cantor Jeri & Steven Robins
Mazel tov to Steffi and everyone at Limmud on ten wonderful years! May you go from strength to strength for the next 10 years and beyond.
Caron Graff & Brian Beere
MAZAL TOV!

Lauren & Richard Langevin
Congratulations Steffi on the incredible work you've done for the Jewish community in Boston.

Ruth Kertzer Seidman
Steffi, you have made the Boston Jewish community a better place.

Terri Noyes & Chris Pitts
Congratulations

Barbara Gaffin
Great work, Steffi!

Sarah B. Sonnenfeld
In gratitude for Steffi, all she has inspired in the Boston community & mishpacha with big open arms!

Vicki Goldberg
So proud of you & all your hard work Steffi

Maud Fischer
In honor of Steffi Karp
DOMESTIC ABUSE IS A JEWISH ISSUE

Does your partner/spouse:
• Make it difficult for you to see family and friends?
• Make decisions for you?
• Frighten you?
• Hurt you?

Do you:
• Feel like you are walking on eggshells?
• Feel disrespected?
• Feel like things are getting worse?

YOU ARE NOT ALONE
Help is available if you want to talk, ask questions, and learn more. Calls are also welcome from friends, family, clergy and other community members.

Jewish Resources
* Journey to Safety
  Free and confidential domestic abuse program of Jewish Family & Children’s Service.
  781-647-JFCS (5327)

* Shalom Task Force
  Jewish Confidential Toll-Free Domestic Abuse Line
  888-883-2323

Confidential 24/7 toll-free hotline
Safelink: 877-785-2020

Sponsored by: JDVC Greater Boston

The Jewish Domestic Violence Coalition (JDVC) of Greater Boston unites concerned organizations and individuals in an effective response to domestic abuse in the Jewish community.

Visit www.jfcsboston.org/jdvc for more information.

This project was partially supported by the Massachusetts Office for Victim Assistance through a Victims of Crime Act of 1984 (VOCA) grant from the Office for Victims of Crime, Office of Justice Programs, U.S. Department of Justice.
Participating in the Open Circle course was a gift I gave to myself... I experienced renewed delight and connection within Jewish community and with learning **lishmah** (for the sake of learning).

- Arinne Braverman, educator, consultant, community organizer, and Hebrew College Open Circle Jewish Learning participant

**COMMUNITY PROGRAMS** for teens and adults

- **Makor and Prozdor** *middle and high school*
- **Jewish Teen Foundation of Greater Boston** *high school*
- **Open Circle Jewish Learning** *conversation-based learning, with groups for 20s and 30s, as well as adults of all ages*
- **Parenting & Grandparenting Through a Jewish Lens** *new parents, parents of teens and tweens, grandparents*
- **Me'ah and Me'ah Select** *rigorous learning over two years or an academic semester*
- **Rabbinical, Cantorial & Graduate Education Classes** *non-credit courses open to the community*
- **Hebrew Language Ulpan** *intensive Hebrew language*
- **Professional Development** *Ani Kinor Prayer Leader Summer Institute and more...*

**GRADUATE AND ORDINATION PROGRAMS** for Jewish leaders and learners

- **Rabbinical Ordination** · **Cantorial Ordination**
- **Master of Jewish Education** · **Master of Arts in Jewish Studies**
- **Dual Master of Jewish Education/Master of Arts in Jewish Studies**

**HEBREW COLLEGE** is a Boston-area institution of Jewish learning and leadership with a dual focus on community learning and graduate leadership — each of which strengthens the other — within a pluralistic environment of open inquiry, depth, creativity, and compassion.
Todah, LimmudBoston, for 10 years of inspiration, community, and fellowship!

We join in honoring Steffi Aronson Karp, whose vision has crafted this a special day of ruach and learning.