

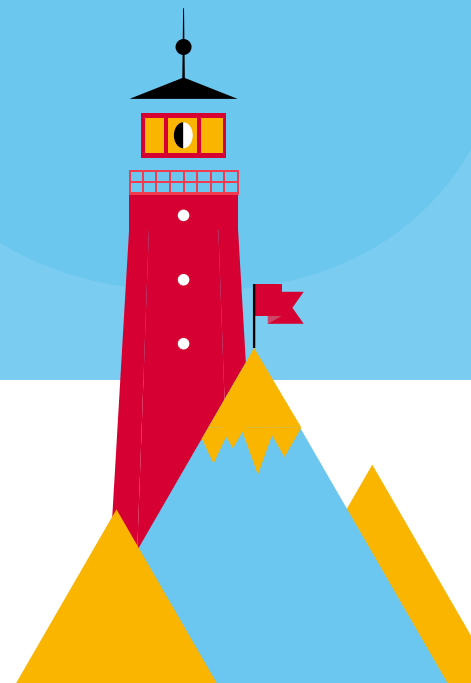
M² 18X18 SUMMIT

SESSION DESCRIPTIONS AND SCHEDULE



MAIMONIDES FUND

The 18x18 Summit is generously supported by the Maimonides Fund.



11:00AM REGISTRATION & LUNCH ————— *Lobby & Le Jardin*

1:00PM GETTING ACQUAINTED: PLAYING WITH 18X18 ————— *Conservatory*

Welcome! Warm up to the group, the framework and the experience!

2:30PM BREAK

**3:00PM EDUCATIONAL DIMENSIONS FOR JEWISH LIFE:
THE 18X18 FRAMEWORK AND POSSIBILITIES** ————— *Salon D*

What if we took this framework seriously? Where are we, as a field, over saturated and where might we choose to experiment with new ideas? In this opening session, we'll interact with the 18x18 framework and set the tone for the Summit.

5:00PM HOTEL CHECK IN & BREAK

6:00PM COMMUNAL DINNER: A PALACE IN THYME ————— *Le Jardin*

Nothing creates community more than gathering around a table with flowing food and conversation. Let's eat, learn and sing the night away.

8:30PM EVENING WORKSHOPS

The sun may have set, but we're just warming up! Choose from a variety of sessions that dig into the power of darkness that carry us to familiar and unfamiliar places.

**See the separate section for full session descriptions.*

- 7:00AM** **BREAKFAST** Le Jardin
Breakfast is available from 7:00AM to 8:45AM. Feel free to grab something before or after your Morning Stretch.
- 7:30AM** **MORNING STRETCHES**
Ease into the day with gentle workshops inspired by dimensions that will stretch your mind, body and soul.
**See the separate section for full session descriptions.*
- 8:45AM** **A BLESSINGS COLLECTIVE** Salon D
Let's tap into the ancient and renewed ritual of responding to 100 blessings.
- 9:30AM** **DEEP DIVES**
Dig deep into one of seven specific dimensions of the 18x18 framework in greater depth. The first two hours will be a deep exploration of content and the last hour will introduce a protocol for incorporating this dimension in your own setting.
**See the separate section for full session descriptions.*
- 1:00PM** **LUNCH** Le Jardin
- 2:00PM** **BREAK**
- 3:00PM** **WORKSHOPS ROUND 1**
To explore the range of possibilities, you are encouraged to engage with additional dimensions that go beyond your deep-dive selection.
**See the separate section for full session descriptions.*
- 4:15PM** **BREAK**
- 4:45PM** **WORKSHOPS ROUND 2**
To continue your exploration, you are invited to engage with additional dimensions that can spark learning, creativity and joy.
**See the separate section for full session descriptions.*
- 6:00PM** **BREAK**
- 6:30PM** **DINNER** Le Jardin
- 8:00PM** **AL HANISSIM- SEEING MIRACLES: AN EVENING OF ARTS & CULTURE** Salon D
Through clowning, poetry, music and crafts, we'll enjoy an evening that integrates a collective performance experience with a choose-your-own-workshop for a one-of-a-kind M² event.

7:00AM

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Le Jardin

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12:30PM

LUNCH

Le Jardin

1:15PM

RECONNECTING TO OUR PURPOSE

Conservatory

Whether you're interested in applying the 18x18 to your setting, brainstorming possibilities about what the framework can offer or networking with stellar colleagues to make this experience matter, this is your opportunity to choose your own adventure!

3:00PM

CLOSING CIRCLE

Patio - Le Jardin

3:30PM

LEHITRAOT...SEE YOU SOON!

ANCHORING THE 18X18 SUMMIT

The 18x18 Summit is a laboratory for you to examine your educational visions and aspirations, with the 18x18 Framework serving as your map and compass.

While Deep Dives, Workshops and Morning Stretches provide space for exploration and possibility, we encourage you to anchor your experience in the following core programs:

OPENING SESSIONS

For you to make the most of your experience, Tuesday's opening sessions are a must. Conducted in full forum through discussion and play, these sessions help reveal the full power of the 18x18 Framework. Together, we will explore why and how each of the 18 Dimensions matter, the ways each can be interpreted, and how they can help you evolve your vision and clarify your strategies. Based on these sessions, you will be able to personalize your experience at the Summit.

INTEGRATION SEGMENTS DURING DEEP DIVES

As you deepen, explore or expand the 18x18 Dimensions through Deep Dives of your choice, you will engage in a dynamic process to help you consider how you might incorporate what you experienced into your work as an educator.

CLOSING SESSIONS

Thursday's closing workshops will help you integrate the range of experiences you encountered throughout the Summit. These workshops include opportunities for applying the 18x18 Framework in your workplace, developing your own educational strategy, making the Framework your own and so much more.

Based on these workshops, you will be able to ensure that your experience at the Summit is more than just an experience: it is a roadmap for you to realize your educational vision.

THE 18X18 DIMENSIONS

Below is a list of icons for each dimension. Next to each session, we have added the primary dimension(s) that each session teaches toward. Please use this visual key to guide your choices.



CONNECT WITH
**THE JEWISH PEOPLE
IN ITS DIVERSITY**



CULTIVATE
JEWISH FRIENDSHIPS



ENGAGE WITH
**JEWISH ROLE
MODELS**



RECALL
**JEWISH HISTORY,
MEMORY AND TRADITION**



PARTICIPATE IN
**JEWISH
COMMUNITY**



DISCOVER
**JUDAISM'S RELEVANCE
TO LIFE'S QUESTIONS**



EXPLORE
**GOD, SPIRITUALITY
AND PRAYER**



CELEBRATE
**RITUALS AND
HOLIDAYS**



PURSUE
**JUSTICE AND
TZEDAKAH**



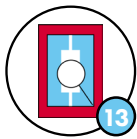
PRACTICE
**MITZVOT AND
CUSTOMS**



IMMERSE IN
**HOLINESS OF NATURE
AND THE ENVIRONMENT**



SEE ONESELF AS AN
**EXPRESSION OF
GOD'S CREATION**



INTERPRET
**JEWISH TEXTS, TORAH
AND CORE NARRATIVES**



CARE FOR
**ISRAEL AND
ITS PEOPLE**



ACCESS
**HEBREW AND JEWISH
TERMINOLOGY**



PARTAKE IN
**JEWISH CULINARY
TRADITIONS**



EXPERIENCE
**JEWISH ARTS
AND CULTURE**



RESPOND TO
**ISSUES FACING
CONTEMPORARY JEWRY**

LYLA TOV - ISRAELI LULLABIES

SHLOMIT NAIM NAOR

Conservatory

When renowned Israeli poet Lea Goldberg wrote about putting a child to sleep, she illuminated a near-universal experience. How did she manage to capture this difficult, but sweeter than honey, moment in poetry? M²'s Shlomit Naim Naor explores the beauty of Lea's words alongside Israeli lullabies – and why so many modern Israelis fall asleep to Japanese music.



GOOD GRIEF? A RITUAL OF MEMORY OF LOVED ONES

ELYSSA MOSS RABINOWITZ

Calais

Why do we light candles in memory of loved ones? As we create personalized *yizkor* candles, we will explore this meaningful personal ritual, as well as other forms of mourning and remembrance that connect us to and honor the memory of those we miss.



I ASK FOR WONDER

BASYA SHECHTER

Normandy

Renowned 20th century philosopher and theologian Rabbi Abraham Joshua Heschel's work has the power to single-handedly reconnect us to the importance of everyday awe and wonder. Through Heschel's writings on liminal space and spirituality, we will unpack, sing, and revel in the holy "wow."



QUEER TIME & NON-BINARY HALAKHA: ENCOUNTERING "TWILIGHT"

LAYNIE SOLOMAN

Patio - Le Jardin

The transition from day to night is a sacred, mystical time in Jewish tradition. Neither fully "day" nor fully "night," twilight resists categorization and represents the queer, beyond-the-binary moments of daily transformation. Through text study, contemplation, and creative expression facilitated by SVARA's Laynie Soloman, we will witness twilight and all that it holds.



BEDTIME STORIES: A LITTLE THAT HOLDS MUCH

RABBI LISA GOLDSTEIN

Provence

Spiritual masters are always attracted to the night, when the fixed edges of the daytime blur to allow new possibilities. We will listen to a mysterious story told by Rabbi Nahman of Breslov and see what openings it invites into our imagination.



EDIBLE EDEN: WILD WALK AND FORAGING EXPERIENCE

ELAN MARGULIES

Patio - Le Jardin

An "edible Eden" might be closer than you think. Discover wild edible plants of the field and forest in this tasting tour – and then, prepare a refreshing tea from the plants you collect.



HOW TO WRAP TEFILLIN

Brittany

LAYNIE SOLOMAN

For centuries, Jews have adorned ourselves each morning with magical, mystical leather adornments – *tefillin*. This holy leather jewelry is worn as an external manifestation of our accountability to Go!d, sacredness, liberation, and each other. In this session, we'll learn about this embodied practice and try it on for ourselves.



SEPHARDI PIYYUTIM: BRINGING TEXT TO LIFE

Normandy

DR. SAMUEL TORJMAN THOMAS

Experience Sephardi-Mizrahi piyyutim (poetry) together with ethnomusicologist Dr. Samuel Torjman Thomas by opening the text, tasting the diction and meter, and professing the melodies.



THE MORNING MUSE

Conservatory

BASYA SCHECHTER

Join musician, composer, and *hazzan* Basya Schechter for early morning Early prayer and inspiration through music, meditation, embodied movement, gratitude, praise, and connection.



'A PERSON IS A TREE OF THE FIELD': TREES AND JEWISH THOUGHT

Patio - Le Jardin

ELAN MARGULIES

Jewish reverence for trees is deeply rooted. We will explore our surroundings and turn to traditional sources to trace the Jewish people's relationship with trees – from the Garden of Eden, to the Messianic era to come – with environmental educator Elan Margulies.



YIDDISH WOMEN'S PRAYERS FROM THE LOWER EAST SIDE

Provence

RABBI LISA GOLDSTEIN

Jewish women immigrants on New York's Lower East Side faced huge obstacles: grinding poverty, crowded tenements, and strange new ways of life. Through both sorrow and joy, they reached for the Holy One through prayer. Read their words and discover stunning details about their inner lives – and perhaps your own, too.

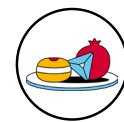


THE OLIVE TREE AND OLIVE OIL

Salon A

NISSIMMI NAIM NAOR

In this hands-on immersion, chef Nissimmi Naim Naor will lead an investigation into olive oil as a symbol, an ingredient, and an educational tool. While kneading and baking, we'll discuss and think about its extraordinary significance from the Temple, to Tuscan *focaccia*.



BECOMING JEWISH IN THE WILDERNESS

Patio - Le Jardin

ELAN MARGULIES

Our tradition teaches that our first journey as humans was in a garden, and our first journey as a Jewish nation was in the wilderness. With environmental educator Elan Margulies as our guide, explore how our connection to land can inspire and inform our Jewish personal and collective identity.



MAKING SEDER OF THE SEDER: A TRADITIONAL-INNOVATIVE APPROACH TO RITUAL

Brittany

ELYSSA MOSS RABINOWITZ

Come join our experiential, interactive seder with Elyssa Moss Rabinowitz. Together, we will break down the components of a seder to delve into what makes it one of the most powerful well-known Jewish rituals. Discover how the framework of a seder can help you create new and renewed traditions.

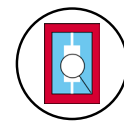


THE RADICAL POWER OF MIDRASH: EXPLORING THE TRANSFORMATIVE NATURE OF TEXTUAL INTERPRETATION

Provence

RABBA YAFFA EPSTEIN

Fundamental to Jewish thought is the idea that all texts can be read in multiple ways. With Rabba Yaffa Epstein, we'll investigate the concept of interpretive tradition, revealing what tools the rabbis of the Talmud employed to strengthen their intellectual inheritance, while constantly innovating to keep Judaism relevant to their lives and times.



DIVING DEEPER INTO THE 18X18

Conservatory

CLARE GOLDWATER

Get to know the 18x18 Educational Framework developed by Dr. Benjamin M. Jacobs and Barry Chazan. Guided by M2's Clare Goldwater, we'll dive deep into the 18x18 as a whole, examine the pros and cons of educational frameworks, and explore how you can leverage the framework in your own work.



THE HEART AND THE SPRING

Calais

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Rabbis have called prayer "service of the heart." – yet, the heart is not always easy to engage. Discover new possibilities for prayer, yearning, and connecting to the Divine through a beautiful tale by Rabbi Nachman of Breslov, followed by discussion, guided meditation, writing, and *hitbodedut*.



A KISS FROM THE SAGES: ON RECLAIMING OUR ANCESTORS

Normandy

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HAVDALAH: THE ART OF SEPARATION

ELYSSA MOSS RABINOWITZ

Explore the Havdalah ritual as one of separation and distinction through text study and a hands-on workshop inspired by the Japanese art of *notan*. No previous art experience necessary, just a willingness to play, experiment, and create!

Calais



CULTIVATING AND DEEPENING RATZON/DEEP MOTIVATION FOR JUSTICE

YEHUDAH WEBSTER

What justice do you want for yourself, your community and society at large? Learn and practice the tools Jewish spiritual wisdom offers in connecting to our deep motivations and cultivating them as desires of the soul.

Brittany



MAIMONIDES AND MUSIC: REFLECTING ON AURALITY, SPIRITUALITY, AND PURPOSEFUL SOUNDING

DR. SAMUEL TORJMAN THOMAS

Maimonidean thought is a pillar of the classic Sephardic approach to humanism. Get to know Maimonides as an Aristotelian philosopher abreast of contemporary trends in Islamic theology, and explore two of his writings (rabbinic responsa) that illuminate aurality and spirituality in the consumption of music.

Conservatory



BALANCING INDIVIDUAL, COMMUNAL AND GLOBAL RESPONSIBILITY: WHAT DOES JUDAISM HAVE TO SAY?

RABBA YAFFA EPSTEIN

In today's world, we're all over-stretched with too many commitments and obligations that sometimes it feels like we can barely take care of ourselves. How can we balance all of the important things that we care about and are committed to? Rabba Yaffa Epstein shares what Judaism has to say.

Provence



THE SECRET OF PURIM'S TRADITIONAL STUFFED FOOD

NISSIMMI NAIM NAOR

In this session, we'll learn about the different traditions and versions of Purim dishes from all over the globe, and the surprising connections between them- and will bake together a special Greek purim dish: Haman's fingers. Come hungry and curious!

Salon A



IMPOSTER SYNDROME: WE'VE ALL GOT IT, NOW HOW CAN JUDAISM HELP ME FACE IT?

Provence

RABBA YAFFA EPSTEIN

As Jewish professionals and humans, we all struggle with "imposter syndrome" – that awful feeling that we aren't enough and don't deserve our successes. Interestingly, Jewish sources have a lot to say about the matter – and many tools to help us deal with it. Join Rabba Yaffa Epstein to meet the imposters of Jewish history and learn from their stories.



PROGRAMMATIC POSSIBILITIES OF THE 18X18

Calais

KIVA RABINSKY

Come see the creative possibilities of building programs and units through the 18x18 framework!



MAQAM: INCORPORATING SEPHARDI-MIZRAHI MUSICAL CULTURES INTO SYNAGOGUE LIVES

Conservatory

DR. SAMUEL TORJMAN THOMAS

Maqam is the instantly recognizable musical system that underpins Sephardi-Mizrahi liturgy and *piyyut* (poetry) traditions. Immerse yourself in the basics of *maqam* with *ethnomusicologist* Dr. Samuel Torjman Thomas, and discover possibilities for incorporating such practices long-term in multicultural, multi-denominational Jewish spaces.



CENTERING CARE & HASHEM IN THE PURSUIT OF RACIAL JUSTICE

Brittany

YEHUDAH WEBSTER

Explore the role concrete acts of care have in perpetuating or subverting anti-Black racism and how fostering an authentic connection with HaShem can support us in our racial justice efforts. Moving from learning to practice, we'll grow our spiritual capacity for dismantling racism in ourselves and our communities.



TALMUD: A QUICK & DIRTY INTRODUCTION

Bordeaux

LAYNIE SOLOMAN

Our tradition teaches that studying Talmud can help us become more compassionate, more resilient, and more connected people. This workshop will introduce attendees to the Talmud- what it is, what it looks like, how to learn it, and how to play with it- using a method for study honed at SVARA: A Traditionally Radical Yeshiva.



FRAMEWORKS FOR JEWISH EDUCATION

Normandy

RABBI DENA KLEIN

Impactful Jewish education requires laser-focus on outcomes. We also want to deliver experiential, life-relevant, learner-centered opportunities. Some feel frameworks stifle creativity, but knowing where you are headed often has the opposite effect. Explore frameworks, including Teen Outcomes and My Aspirations Playbook, and consider how they can produce meaningful educational experiences.



MORE THAN WORDS: A DEEP DIVE INTO THE HISTORY, STRUCTURE, AND MEANING OF THE AMIDAH (SILENT MEDITATION) PRAYER

Provence

RABBA YAFFA EPSTEIN

Join Rabba Yaffa Epstein to explore the creation of the emotional, spiritual peak of the Jewish prayer service, the *Amidah*, or silent meditation prayer. A fascinating story about change, transformation, and hope, – it is also the story of the Jewish people in a prayer.



LEYNING IN THE FAST LANE

Normandy

BASYA SCHECHTER

So many of us have always yearned to chant from the Torah, but have been daunted by the unfamiliar cantillations and traditions. Boost your confidence on the bimah with this short, accessible course through chant and movement.



SOUL EXERCISE/PRACTICE FOR JUSTICE

Brittany

YEHUDAH WEBSTER

Start the day exercising your soul for Justice with the practices of Mussar, applied Jewish ethics. Souls are the animating force we call on to challenge injustice and form new ways of being internally and communally. Strengthen your spiritual muscle to be more effective and sustained in your justice efforts.



SHACHARIT - ISRAELI POETRY AS PRAYER

Calais

SHLOMIT NAIM NOAR

We welcome the new day with Israel's finest poetry, and find out how we can each enrich and expand our own personal books of prayer.



FOR THE LOVE G-D!

Patio - Le Jardin

HASHLIACH PERETZ CHEIN

Every good meal needs an appetizer to wet the appetite, *tefillah* (prayer) is no exception. Join us for a Thursday morning *davening* (prayer), with some Tanya* to wet our spiritual appetite, before we dig into the love of G-d.



*The Tanya is one of the early and foundational works of Chassidut, particularly Chabad Chassidut. All are welcome to this experience. The davening will follow the orthodox liturgical tradition with gender-specific space.

Please note that this session takes place at 6am

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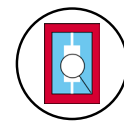
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