

WHAT ARE WE TEACHING TOWARDS?

A SYMPOSIUM ON JEWISH PEOPLEHOOD AND WELLBEING

March 18, 2024 • 12pm-2:30pm ET

12:00 - 12:10PM

Welcome & What are We Teaching Towards?

Mollie Andron

12:10 - 12:15PM

Beginning with Silence

Mira Weill

12:15 - 12:45PM

**ROUND 1 OF
WORKSHOPS**

My Israeli Story: Between Hope and Reality

Dr. Yakir Englander (Peoplehood)

Experience the Hasidic pedagogy of storytelling, and explore how it can be used to expand our learners' perception of Israel – both as a tangible place and as a hope.

Na'anua: A Pedagogy of Jewish Transformative Movement

Rabbanit Dalia Davis (Wellbeing)

Experience the transformative power of movement! Engage the six spatial directions, move from the contained to the expansive, and discover opportunities for reflection, healing, and a return to oneself.

**A Pedagogy of Rootedness:
Reclaiming a Sense of Belonging**
Dominika Zakrzewska (Peoplehood)

Build a sense of communal belonging by using tangible artifacts to ground learners in the rich history of a local Jewish community.

**Kissing the Sages: Cultivating
Peoplehood Through Talmud Torah**
Laynie Soloman (Peoplehood)

Explore what it means to study Torah as a "mispar hadoros," a conversation between the generations, and how we might nurture peoplehood by weaving a tapestry of Torah with those who came before us.



CONT'D

12:15 - 12:45PM

ROUND 1 OF
WORKSHOPS

Speaking Jewish: A Phraseology of Peoplehood

Rabbi Josh Weinberg (Peoplehood)

Engage with the pedagogy of *pitgamim* (phrases) – the utilization of Jewish phrases, sayings, and quotations – to transmit Jewish literacy, culture, and a connection to Jewish peoplehood.

Facing Difference and Fostering Belonging

Maia Ferdman (Peoplehood)

Gain a lens for navigating, accepting, and honoring the differences between our learners, and for fostering a more authentic sense of belonging as a result.

Life Meets Text: Sara Bareilles and Song of Songs

Rabbi Jen Gubitz (Wellbeing)

Climb the life-meets-text ladder and elevate the modern learner's path to finding meaning in Jewish wisdom through this learner-centric pedagogy, rooted in eisegesis and essential questions.

***Kol Demama*: A Pedagogy of Nuance**

Devora Katz (Wellbeing)

How can we effectively listen to, consider, and respect the perspectives of all individuals – even those with whom we strongly disagree? Post October 7th, this pedagogy of nuance looks to find comfort through storytelling.

12:45 - 1:00PM

A Letter to your Ancestor

Laynie Solomon

1:00 - 1:10PM

Break

1:10 - 1:40PM

ROUND 2 OF
WORKSHOPS

Let's Farbreng: The Original Farbrengen Game

Hashaliach Peretz Chein (Wellbeing)

Farbrengen is an age-old Chassidic practice of gathering to explore and connect – and now, for the first time, to play. Play the *Farbrengen* game, and don't forget to bring along a *l'chaim* of your choice.

Embodying My Jewish Story

Dr. Samantha Vinokor-Meinrath (Peoplehood)

Reflect on our Jewish stories through a low-barrier art activity, while considering how our individual narratives contribute to those of the Jewish people as a whole.

CONT'D

1:10 - 1:40PM

**ROUND 2 OF
WORKSHOPS**

Kaveh: A Pedagogy of Hope

Rabbi Amitai Fraiman (Peoplehood)

Let us sigh together. Let us breathe together. Explore how breath and hope are integral to our Jewish communal experience, and how they have sustained us throughout the generations.

Amplifying Minority Voices Through Storytelling

Dr. Beza Abebe (Peoplehood)

Foster representation, center minority experiences, and invite authenticity through the art of storytelling.

Cultivating Curiosity

Rabbi Paul Cohen (Wellbeing)

By continually asking questions of the Torah, we find that it contains infinite wisdom. Move beyond the superficial and invite deeper understanding of each other through the methodology of leading with genuine questions.

Building Interpersonal Connection Through Wonder

Fraidy Aber (Wellbeing)

Combat the epidemic of loneliness through three Jewish communal experiences of wonder that can strengthen interpersonal connection, lift the soul, and create a sense of belonging.

1:40 - 1:50PM

Speaking Jewish

Rabbi Josh Weinberg

1:50 - 2:20PM

**ROUND 3 OF
WORKSHOPS**



Parsha Play as a Portal to Regenerative Torah

Aura Chaya (Wellbeing)

Venture into the "playground" of words and worlds, engaging with the sacred text of Vayikra through a call and response with our inner Divine. Please bring a pen and paper.

Hineni: A Call to Humble Action

Rabbi Aytan Kadden (Peoplehood)

Enter a learning space that demands we take a firm position – yet, at the same time, asks that we learn with humility and a generosity of spirit to others.

CONT'D

1:50 - 2:20PM

**ROUND 3 OF
WORKSHOPS**

What Do We Owe Each Other?

Rabbi Joshua Mikutis (Peoplehood)

Explore activities that can help our learners interrogate questions around interpersonal obligation.

A Pedagogy of Responsiveness

Dr. Sandra Anusiewicz-Baer (Peoplehood)

Answer ethical questions with compassion and empathy – taking into account various sources, contexts, and experiences – through a pedagogy that draws on the Jewish practice of *Teshuvot*.

**Cultivating Joy: *Mitzvah Gedolah*
*Lehiyot BeSimcha***

Jessie Gindea (Wellbeing)

Build a practice of seeking joy through this pedagogy for educators. Form a communal language through structured practice, strengthening relationships and infusing wonder into our teaching and personal journeys.

***Shtika*: Reclaiming Silence for Embodied Jewish Ethics**

Mira Neshama Weil (Wellbeing)

What kind of space does silence enable? Foster presence, wellbeing, and emotional intelligence through the Jewish tradition of quieting (*shtika*), and gain concrete tools for embodying the values we teach.

2:20 - 2:25PM

Practicing Joy

Jessie Gindea

2:25 - 2:30PM

'Closing: From Jewish Education to an Education that is Jewish'

Rabbi Lisa Goldstein