



**NETWORK FOR RESEARCH IN  
Jewish Education**

**2024  
NRJE  
ANNUAL  
CONFERENCE**

**June 2 - 4**

**Gratz College  
Philadelphia, PA**

**Matt Reingold, Program Chair**

**Ari Y Kelman, NRJE Chair**

**Hosted by Gratz College**

**WE ARE GRATEFUL  
TO THE FOLLOWING  
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INDIVIDUALS FOR  
THEIR GENEROUS  
SUPPORT**



**The Covenant Foundation**

**SPECIAL THANKS TO THE  
PROGRAM COMMITTEE**

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**Matt Reingold, Program Chair  
Julie Golding, Joshua Ladon and  
Meir Muller**

**NRJE CHAIR  
Ari Y Kelman**

**NRJE COORDINATOR  
Melissa Zalkin Stollman**

**NRJE**

# WELCOME

We look forward to a stimulating conference as we convene academics, practitioners and researchers from many disciplines and institutions to share the latest studies in the field of Jewish educational research.

## SESSION FORMATS

**1. PAPER SESSIONS:** presentations of completed or nearly completed work by several researchers and a discussant providing feedback.

**2. ROUNDTABLE:** collegial discussion on a shared topic of interest or work in progress.

**3. SKILLS SESSION:** a session led by a senior scholar where a specific skill is taught and junior scholars have the opportunity to ask questions. This could include something like “how to turn a dissertation into a book/article” or “how to secure a publishing contract.

**4. CONSULTATION:** This format has traditionally been geared towards early career students and researchers but we also welcome more established scholars who just need a thought partner to take advantage of this session.

# SCHEDULE OVERVIEW

ANNUAL CONFERENCE  
JUNE 2 - 4, 2024 • GRATZ COLLEGE

## SUNDAY, JUNE 2

- 3:00pm** Registration
- 5:00pm** Opening Reception
- 5:30pm** Dinner
- 6:30pm** Keynote

## MONDAY, JUNE 3

- 8:15am** Journal of Jewish Education Breakfast
- 8:30am** Breakfast and Registration
- 9:30am** Paper/Roundtable Sessions
- 11:15am** Paper/Roundtable Sessions
- 12:45pm** Lunch and Award Presentations
- 2:00pm** Paper/Roundtable Sessions
- 3:45pm** Paper/Roundtable Sessions
- 5:30pm** Reception
- 6:00pm** Dinner

## TUESDAY, JUNE 4

- 8:00am** Breakfast and registration
- 9:00am** Paper/Roundtable Sessions
- 10:45am** NRJE Board Meeting
- 10:45am** Paper/Roundtable Sessions
- 12:30pm** Lunch
- 1:45pm** Luggage pick up and departures

# NRJE

# PROGRAM

## SUNDAY, JUNE 2

**3:00pm** Registration

**5:00pm** Opening Reception

**5:30pm** Dinner

**6:30pm** Keynote - David Zvi Kalman (Shalom Hartman Institute)

## LOCATION

Lobby/Kramer Gallery

Library Stacks

Chomsky Reading Room

Chomsky Reading Room

## MONDAY, JUNE 3

**8:15am** Journal of Jewish Education Breakfast

**8:30am** Breakfast and Registration

**9:30am - 11:00am** Sessions

### **S 1.1 PAPER SESSION - Desired and Realized Outcomes of Jewish Education**

Chair: Joshua Ladon (Shalom Hartman Institute)  
David Graham (University of Sydney) and  
Adina Bankier-Karp (Monash University);  
Bryan Oren (University of Haifa); and  
Gabor Kerekes (Touro University)

Landau Boardroom

### **S 1.2 SKILLS SESSION - How to Use, Read, and Talk About Surveys in the Jewish Communal Sector**

Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz (Rosov Consulting)

Room 114

### **S 1.3 ROUNDTABLE SESSION - Beyond Borders: The Role of Educational Emissaries (*Shlichim*) in the Diaspora During Wartime in Israel**

Chair: Matt Reingold (TanenbaumCHAT)  
Daniel Steiner (Haifa University); and  
Michal Shapira Junger (Ariel University)

Room 115

### **S 1.4 ROUNDTABLE SESSION - The Impact of the Israel - Hamas War on Jewish Day School Enrollment**

Odelia Epstein (Prizmah); Beth Rivkind(Prizmah);  
Mitchell Daar (Perelman Jewish Day School);  
Mindy Zukin Andelman (Perelman Jewish Day School);  
Marshall Lesack (Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy);  
Penina Braffman Greenfield (Perelman Jewish Day School); and  
Missy Present (Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy)

Room 116

**11:15am - 12:45pm** Sessions

### **S 2.1 ROUNDTABLE SESSION - Thinking Materiality: The Potentials, Pitfalls, and Praxes of Materiality in Jewish Educational Contexts**

Facilitator: Sharon Avni (City University of New York)  
Anastasia Badder (University of Cambridge);  
Ken Koltun-Fromm (Haverford College);  
Laura Levitt (Temple University/Carleton College); and  
Jennifer Rich (Rowan University)

Landau Boardroom

### **S 2.2 PAPER SESSION - Jews, Education, and the State: Lessons from the 1960s**

Chair: Julie Golding (Azrieli Graduate School, Yeshiva University)  
Ari Y Kelman (Stanford University);  
Jonathan Krasner (Brandeis University); and  
Lila Berman (Temple University)

Room 114



# PROGRAM

## MONDAY, JUNE 3 (continued)

### LOCATION

#### **S 2.3 PAPER SESSION - Teaching and Using Hebrew in the Classroom**

Room 115

Chair: Barry Holtz (Jewish Theological Seminary)  
Tamara Frankel (Jewish Theological Seminary);  
Ziva Hassenfeld (Brandeis University); and  
Andrew Ergas (Jewish Theological Seminary)

#### **S 2.4 ROUNDTABLE SESSION - Teaching Israel After October 7**

Room 116

Chair: Matt Reingold (TanenbaumCHAT)  
Sivan Zakai (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion);  
Amin Tarzi (Marine Corps University);  
Laura Novak Winer (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion);  
Bethamie Horowitz (CASJE, GWU);  
Joshua Ladon (Shalom Hartman Institute);  
Abby Pitkowsky (Covenant Foundation); and  
Ezra Kopelowitz (Research Success Technologies)

#### **S 2.5 CONSULTATION - Levisohn's Orientations to the Teaching of Rabbinic Literature in the Modern Orthodox High School Talmud Class**

Library Stacks

Jeremy Bruce (Central Connecticut State University)

12:45pm - 1:45pm Lunch and Award Presentations

Chomsky Reading Room

2:00pm - 3:30pm Sessions

#### **S 3.1 ROUNDTABLE SESSION - Addressing "Wicked Problems" in American Jewish Education**

Landau Boardroom

Facilitator: Bethamie Horowitz (CASJE, GWU)  
Talia Hurwich (CASJE, GWU);  
Tal Vaizman (CASJE, GWU); and  
Esther Friedman (CASJE, GWU)

#### **S 3.2 PAPER SESSION - Israel in Day Schools after October 7**

Room 114

Chair: Benji Davis (University of Haifa)  
Matt Reingold (TanenbaumCHAT);  
Meir Muller (University of South Carolina);  
Lyndall Miller (Independent Researcher) and  
Alana Gelnick (SAR Academy); and  
Rona Novick (Yeshiva University)

#### **S 3.3 CONSULTATION - A Collaborative Inquiry into Issues that Matter for Jewish Children and Their Teachers**

Room 115

Lauren Applebaum (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion)  
and Sivan Zakai (Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion)

#### **S 3.4 ROUNDTABLE SESSION - Jewish Families Today: Exploring the Implications for Research and Practice of a New Study**

Room 116

Chair: Alex Pomson (Rosov Consulting)  
Annie Jollymore (Rosov Consulting) and  
Evelyn Maria Dean-Olmstead (Rosov Consulting)

#### **S 3.5 PAPER SESSION - Exploring Jewish Student Experiences in Higher Education**

Library Stacks

Chair: Ilana Horwitz (Tulane University)  
Jenny L. Small (Brandeis University);  
Kimberley Kushner (University of Missouri, Kansas City); and  
Rebecca Kobrin and Daniella Tziona Coen (Columbia University)

# PROGRAM

## MONDAY, JUNE 3 (continued)

### LOCATION

**3:45pm - 5:15pm Sessions**

**S 4.1 ROUNDTABLE SESSION - October 7th and the Ensuing War: The Impact for “Local” Understandings of Being Jewish and the Implications for Jewish Education**

**Landau Boardroom**

Ezra Kopelowitz (Research Success Technologies);  
 Alex Pomson (Rosov Consulting);  
 Dasi Fruchter (Shteibel);  
 Paige GoldMarche (Moving Traditions); and  
 Megan GoldMarche (Tribe 12)

**S 4.2 PAPER SESSION - Preparing Educators and Administrators for Working in Jewish Schools**

**Room 114**

Chair: Meir Muller (University of South Carolina)  
 Benji Davis (University of Haifa);  
 Dafna Meltzer (Gratz College); and  
 Lyndall Miller (Independent Researcher)

**S 4.3 PAPER SESSION - Jewish Education and the Arts**

**Room 115**

Chair: Ofra Backenroth (Jewish Theological Seminary)  
 Sharon Avni (City University of New York); and  
 Tal Vaizman (CASJE, GWU)

**S 4.4 PAPER SESSION - Teacher Identities in Jewish Education**

**Room 116**

Chair: Esther Friedman (CASJE, GWU)  
 Saul Kaiserman (Jewish Theological Seminary);  
 Mindy Gold (University of Louisville) and  
 Kathy Schwartz (Jewish Learning Works); and  
 Joseph Reimer (Brandeis University)

**S 4.5 PAPER SESSION - The American Jewish Gap Year in Israel**

**Library Stacks**

Chair: Ari Y Kelman (Stanford University)  
 Jon Levisohn (Brandeis University);  
 Ayelet Shachar (Orthodox Union); and  
 Jonathan Schwab (Yeshiva University)

**5:30pm Reception**

**Chomsky Reading Room**

**6:00pm Dinner**

**Chomsky Reading Room**

## TUESDAY, JUNE 4

**8:00am Breakfast and Registration**

**Lobby/Kramer Gallery**

**9:00am - 10:30am Sessions**

**S 5.1 SKILLS SESSION - How to Prepare Your Manuscript for the Journal of Jewish Education: A Conversation with the Journal's Senior Editors**

**Landau Boardroom**

Jonathan Krasner (Brandeis University) and  
 Sivan Zakai (Hebrew Union College- Jewish Institute of Religion)

**S 5.2 PAPER SESSION - Jewish Identities and Their Intersections in Jewish Educational Institutions**

**Room 114**

Chair; Judd Kruger Levingston (Jack M. Barrack Hebrew Academy)  
 Lindsay Metzker (Temple University);  
 Elana Rand (Yeshiva University); and  
 Ariela Ronay-Jinich (Olamim)

# PROGRAM

**TUESDAY, JUNE 4** (continued)

**LOCATION**

**S 5.3 PAPER SESSION - When a Reader Meets the Bible:  
Text, Identity and Thinking Skills**

Esther Friedman (CASJE, GWU) and  
Ziva Hassenfeld (Brandeis University)

**Room 115**

**S 5.4 PAPER SESSION - Teacher Educators Engage Students in  
Challenging Conversations to Explore Racism and Antisemitism**

Meredith Katz (Queens College, CUNY);  
Rebecca Shargel (Towson University); and  
Meir Muller (University of South Carolina)

**Room 116**

**10:45am - 12:15pm** NRJE Board Meeting

**Library**

**10:45am - 12:15pm** Paper/Roundtable Sessions

**S 6.1 PAPER SESSION - Jewish Education Outside of Day Schools**

Chair: Laura Novak Winer (Hebrew Union College- Jewish Institute  
of Religion)  
Dafna Meltzer (Gratz College);  
Laurie Fisher (Gratz College); and  
Laurence Kotler-Berkowitz (Rosov Consulting)

**Landau Boardroom**

**S 6.2 PAPER SESSION - Voices Inside Schools: Research by and  
for Educational Leaders**

Chair: Lauren Applebaum (Hebrew Union College- Jewish Institute of Religion)  
Lori Green (Temple Sholom, Broomall, PA);  
Eileen Sadowsky and  
Stacey Steggert (Temple Emanu-El, Cleveland, OH); and  
Jonathan Parker (Bnei Akiva Schools, Toronto, ON)  
Discussant: Sharon Feiman-Nemser, Brandeis University

**Room 114**

**S 6.3 PAPER SESSION - Researching New/Old Questions in the  
Israel Experience Field**

Chair: Amanda Winer (The Jewish Education Project)  
Alex Pomson,  
Annie Jollymore and Wendy Rosov (Rosov Consulting)

**Room 115**

**S 6.4 ROUNDTABLE SESSION - Racial and Ethnic Diversity and  
Jewish Early Childhood Education**

Chair: Ilana Dvorin Friedman (Jewish United Fund of Chicago)  
Sharon Bacharach (American Jewish University);  
Ariela Ronay-Jinich (Olamim);  
Michal Avera Samuel (University of Wisconsin - Madison);  
Shahanna McKinney-Baldon (University of Wisconsin - Madison); and  
Ilana Dvorin Friedman (Jewish United Fund of Chicago)

**Room 116**

**12:30pm Lunch**

**Chomsky Reading Room**

**1:45pm Luggage Pick-up and Departures**

**Thanks for joining us!  
We'll see you again next year.**