



**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  
INSTITUTIONS AND  
INDIVIDUALS FOR  
THEIR GENEROUS  
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**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**



# 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** Sessions
- 11:15am** Sessions
- 12:45pm** Lunch and Award Presentations
- 2:00pm** Sessions
- 3:45pm** Sessions
- 5:30pm** Reception
- 6:00pm** Dinner

## TUESDAY, JUNE 4

- 8:00am** Breakfast and registration
- 9:00am** Sessions
- 10:45am** NRJE Board Meeting
- 10:45am** 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

Library Lobby

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)  
Adina Bankier-Karp (Monash University) and  
David Graham (University of Sydney);  
Gabor Kerekes (Touro University); and  
Bryan Oren (University of Haifa)

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)  
Michal Shapira Junger (Ariel University) and  
Daniel Steiner (Haifa University)

Room 115

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

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

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

Room 114

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

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

# PROGRAM

## MONDAY, JUNE 3 (continued)

### LOCATION

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

**Room 115**

Chair: TBD  
 Andrew Ergas (Jewish Theological Seminary) and  
 Ziva Hassenfeld (Brandeis University)

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

**Room 116**

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

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

**Library Classroom**

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: TBD  
 Esther Friedman (CASJE, GWU);  
 Talia Hurwich (CASJE, GWU); and  
 Tal Vaizman (CASJE, GWU)

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

**Room 114**

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

### **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)  
 Evelyn Maria Dean-Olmstead (Rosov Consulting) and  
 Annie Jollymore (Rosov Consulting)

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

**Library Classroom**

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

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

**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)  
 Mindy Gold (University of Louisville);  
 Saul Kaiserman (Jewish Theological Seminary);  
 Joseph Reimer (Brandeis University); and  
 Kathy Schwartz (Jewish Learning Works)

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

**Library Classroom**

Chair: Jenny Small (Brandeis University)  
 Jon Levisohn (Brandeis University);  
 Jonathan Schwab (Yeshiva University); and  
 Ayelet Shachar (Orthodox Union)

**5:30pm Reception**

**Chomsky Reading Room**

**6:00pm Dinner**

**Chomsky Reading Room**

## TUESDAY, JUNE 4

**8:00am Breakfast and Registration**

**Lobby/Kramer Gallery**

**8:00 am - 9:00am NRJE Board Meeting**

**Library**

**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);  
Meir Muller (University of South Carolina); and  
Rebecca Shargel (Towson University)

**Room 116**

**10:45am - 12:15pm Sessions**

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

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

**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);  
Jonathan Parker (Bnei Akiva Schools, Toronto, ON);  
Eileen Sadowsky (Temple Emanu-El, Cleveland, OH); and  
Stacey Steggert (Temple Emanu-El, Cleveland, OH)  
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)  
Annie Jollymore (Rosov Consulting);  
Alex Pomson (Rosov Consulting); 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);  
Shahanna McKinney-Baldon (University of Wisconsin - Madison);  
Ariela Ronay-Jinich (Olamim); and  
Michal Avera Samuel (University of Wisconsin - Madison)

**Room 116**

**12:30pm Lunch**

**Chomsky Reading Room**

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

**Office Facing Room 116**

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