

THE WEXNER FOUNDATION

WEXNER GRADUATE FELLOWSHIP/  
DAVIDSON SCHOLARS PROGRAM

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# BIO BOOK



**TZVI BENOFF**

*Rabbinite, Yeshiva University-Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary*

Tzvi Benoff, originally from Bergenfield, New Jersey, is a first-year rabbinical student at Yeshiva University's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS). He graduated this past year from Yeshiva University with a Bachelor's degree in Quantitative Economics and History, before which he studied for two years in Israel at Yeshivat Kerem B'Yavneh. Tzvi is also a UJA Graduate Fellow and serves as the rabbinic intern at Lincoln Square Synagogue in New York City. In his free time, he enjoys swimming, writing music, and playing tennis.



**DAVID SHMIDT CHAPMAN**

*Rabbinite, Jewish Theological Seminary*

David Shmidt Chapman's first love was making theater as a catalyst for social change. He received a Fulbright grant to study post-Cold War drama in Hungary and a Henry Luce Scholarship to teach drama at an arts college in Vietnam. After a successful career as a theater director, David found his new vocation in the Jewish social justice world. David's first "Jewish job" was with the grantmaking team of the Nathan Cummings Foundation, helping strengthen its Jewish Life and Values, Israel, Climate Change, and Inequality programs. In 2014, David created and produced PEW-ish, an evening of short plays inspired by the (in)famous Pew Study. He later joined the New Israel Fund, serving as Associate Director for NY/Tri-State. David was Vice President of Congregation Beit Simchat Torah, the country's largest LGBTQ synagogue. He holds a BA with Highest Honors from UNC-Chapel Hill and a Master's in Nonprofit Leadership from Fordham. A member of the ROI Community, David was named to the *Jewish Week's* 2017 "36 Under 36" list. A rabbinical student at JTS, David is the student rabbi of Southwest Orlando Jewish Congregation. He lives in New York with his husband Jonathan and their son Elior.



**MADELINE COOPER**

*Rabbinite, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion*

Madeline Cooper is a fifth-year rabbinical student at the Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion in New York, NY. In May 2021, she received her MA in Jewish Nonprofit Management from the Zelikow School at HUC-JIR. This year, Madeline will serve as the Rabbinic Intern at the Central Conference for American Rabbis (CCAR) and as a Fellow in the Center for Rabbinic Innovation's Fellowship for Rabbinic Entrepreneurs. Originally from Lexington, MA, Madeline graduated with a BA in History from Dartmouth College in 2016. Madeline also serves as co-president of the HUC-JIR NY Student Association and loves to read, hike, and volunteer for political campaigns in her free time.



**GABE FALK**

*Rabbinite, Yeshiva University-Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary*

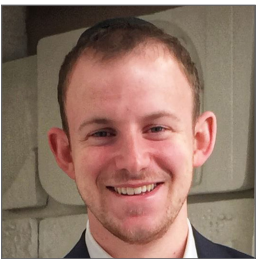
Gabe Falk is currently studying to be a rabbi at Yeshiva University. He lives in Cleveland, Ohio, where he serves as Rabbinic Intern at Green Road Synagogue and educator at Fuchs Mizrachi High School. Gabe is completing his rabbinic training through RIETS and an MA in Jewish History at Revel. Previously, Gabe worked for three years as a financial services consultant at Novantas. While working at Novantas, he helped found a still-thriving grassroots community for Orthodox young professionals on Manhattan's Upper West Side. Gabe graduated with a BA in History and Economics from Columbia College in 2014, where he led the Orthodox community in formal and informal capacities. Gabe loves hiking and most things outdoors. While he has lived in New York for most of his life, Gabe considers it to be the highest form of compliment when people suggest that he is from 'out-of-town.' Gabe and his wife Debra are parents to two adorable kids, Meital and Elisha.



**CHELSEA FEUCHS**

*Rabbinate, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion*

Chelsea Feuchs is a fourth-year rabbinical student at HUC-JIR, and the Rabbinic Intern at Central Synagogue. Originally from Goldens Bridge, New York, Chelsea attended Brown University where she earned a Bachelor of Arts in Judaic Studies. Upon graduation, she became a JOIN for Justice Fellow and worked for two years as a labor organizer with the Massachusetts Building Trades Council. While there, she planned protests to advocate for workers' rights, focusing on safety conditions, fair pay, and healthcare coverage. Chelsea subsequently became a Dorot Fellow in Israel and lived for a year in Jerusalem, developing leadership skills and learning about Israeli society. During that time, Chelsea read the whole *Tanach* with feminist commentary and developed a theory linking all women in the text to promote deeper critical engagement with the Jewish library. Before beginning rabbinical school, Chelsea worked for a year as the Communications Associate at ARZA, the Association of Reform Zionists of America. Chelsea is eager to pass on her love of *Torah* to others, and to use such teaching as an opportunity to open up and center difficult conversations in the Jewish community.



**JACK (ZEV) HAIT**

*Jewish Education/Rabbinate, Yeshiva University-Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary*

Zev Hait is the Director of the Siach Graduate Fellowship at Machon Siach and a Judaic Studies teacher at SAR High School. A graduate of Brandeis University, Zev spent two years working in corporate real estate before pursuing his passion for Jewish education. Zev has spent numerous summers as an administrator at Camp Moshava and his love for informal programming brought him to co-found 'BABayit' (a young professionals community on the Upper West Side) in 2017. Zev resides in Riverdale, NY with his wife and daughter

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**MAIA IPP**

*Jewish Professional Leadership, Columbia University*

Maia Ipp is a writer, educator, and culture producer. In 2016-17 she held a research and writing fellowship with the Polish Ministry of Culture and lived in Krakow, where she co-founded Festivalt, a festival of avant-garde Jewish art and ideas. Before she moved to Europe, Maia co-lead a group for grandchildren of Holocaust survivors in San Francisco to critically and creatively explore the effects of Holocaust legacy, which led her to pursue dialogue work with descendants of Nazi perpetrators in Germany and Poland. She created and led the Borderlands Residency in 2016, a week-long artists workshop for Jewish and non-Jewish artists from the U.S., Poland, and Lithuania, who work on Holocaust-related projects. Maia was Associate Director of Creative Writing at Ruth Asawa School of the Arts in San Francisco from 2009-2016. She is currently a contributing editor at *Jewish Currents* magazine, where she also frequently writes. She is a graduate student in Columbia University's Creative Writing program, where she was awarded the Felipe De Alba fellowship for fiction. She is also co-director of the New Jewish Culture Fellowship.

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**SAM LANGSTEIN**

*Jewish Professional Leadership, University of Michigan*

Sam Langstein is the Helpline Manager at the National Alliance on Mental Illness in New York City, where he oversees a team of responders and manages their peer-led call line from head to tail. In 2020, Sam graduated from the University of Michigan's Jewish Communal Leadership Program through the School of Social Work with a focus on management and mental health services. In graduate school, Sam served as a social work intern at Beit T'Shuvah and at Jewish Family Services of Metro Detroit, where he completed a strategic community needs assessment of teen mental health needs and services across Jewish Detroit. In 2015, Sam became a corps member of AVODAH: The Jewish Service Corps, and began working at Footsteps, an organization which supports and affirms those transitioning out of the ultra-Orthodox world. Sam spent three years there and held three different positions that ranged from direct counseling to data management to community engagement. Before that, Sam received his BA in psychology from CUNY Hunter College. Now, in addition to his work at the National Alliance on Mental Illness, he often consults for a variety of Jewish social service organizations and mental health projects.



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**ORLEA MILLER**

*Jewish Education, Jewish Theological Seminary*

Orlea Miller is the Community Engagement and Education Associate at the Leffell School, formerly Schechter Westchester. In this role, she oversees community education, focusing on alumni relations and connections with other constituency groups within the school community. She graduated from the Davidson School at the Jewish Theological Seminary with a Master's in Jewish Education on the Educational Leadership track. In 2016, Orlea graduated *magna cum laude* from Harvard College, where she received a Bachelor of Arts and double majored in the Comparative Study of Religion and Sociology. This academic path sparked her interest in the interplay between the way individuals use religion to form personal identity within and among a larger community. After college, she worked as the Jewish Life Associate at Gann Academy in Waltham, Mass., focusing on experiential education. Orlea is originally from San Antonio, Texas, where she attended Jewish day school at the Eleanor Kolitz Academy through eighth grade.



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**PHREDDY NOSANWISCH**

*Jewish Education, Jewish Theological Seminary*

Phreddy Nosanwisch is an educator and a graduate of the JTS William Davidson School of Jewish Education.



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**KENDELL PINKNEY**

*Jewish Education/Rabbinate, Jewish Theological Seminary*

Kendell Pinkney is a Brooklyn based theatre-maker, creative producer, and rabbinical student at the Jewish Theological Seminary. He works and creates art at the intersection of race, Jewish identity and sacred text, and has most recently been featured in the acclaimed new Israeli docuseries "The New Jew" with actor-comedian Guri Alfi, Saturday Night Seder and the 'Unholier Than Thou' podcast. His broader collaborative works have been presented at venues such as 54 Below, Joe's Pub, LABA @ the 14th St. Y, and Two River Theatre, to name a few. In addition to his creative work, he has served as the rabbinic fellow for the Jewish arts and culture organizations Reboot and LABA, and serves on the Spiritual Direction team at Amud: The Jews of Color Torah Academy. He is a 2017 recipient of the *New York Jewish Week's* 36 Under 36.





**JACQUELINE RAFII**

*Cantorate, Academy for Jewish Religion*

As a first-generation American and daughter of Persian immigrants, Jackie Rafii strives to honor her multifaceted identity as a Persian-American Jewish woman. Although her greatest passions are Jewish community and music, the path to her calling as a cantor has been unique: she first worked as an entertainment attorney for four years. In college, Jackie led *Shabbat* services, sang at community events, and pursued Jewish leadership positions. She was co-founder and president of the first UCLA chapter of a Jewish sorority, a Grinspoon Israel Advocacy Intern, and a Bruins for Israel board member. She graduated *summa cum laude* from UCLA and earned her JD from UCLA School of Law. While practicing law, she led *Shabbat* and High Holy Days services at Wilshire Boulevard Temple, Sinai Temple, Temple Emanuel, and Kehillat Ma'arav. In July of 2017, Jackie took the leap to officially switch her career path, and she is now (to her soul's delight) the Cantorial Soloist and Director of Music at Shomrei Torah Synagogue in West Hills. At Shomrei Torah, she has built a youth choir and adult choir, mentors youth interested in music and leadership, is the director of the B'nei Mitzvah Program, has created '*Shabbat Around the World*', a series highlighting diverse Jewish cultures including Sephardic, Yemenite, Israeli, and Persian, and produced a cantorial concert of modern music in February 2019 that was featured in the *Jewish Journal*. She is currently in her third year as a cantorial student at the Academy for Jewish Religion California, and following ordination plans to continue her studies to become a rabbi.



**SHANI ROSENBAUM**

*Rabbinate, Hebrew College*

Shani Rosenbaum is a faculty member at the Rabbinical School of Hebrew College. She holds a BA in Near Eastern and Judaic Studies from Brandeis University and received rabbinic ordination from her teachers at Hebrew College. Shani has studied at Midreshet Lindenbaum, Matan, Beit Midrash Har'el, Yeshivat Hadar, and in the Pardes Kollel and has taught *Talmud*, *Halakha*, and *Midrash* through Hebrew College's Open Circle. She has served on the programming teams at Jerusalem-based non-profits Encounter and OLAM and at T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights.



**SIVAN ROTHOLZ**

*Jewish Education/Rabbinate, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion*

Sivan Rotholz is a rabbinical student at HUC-JIR and Nonprofit Mgmt student at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. She spent her year in Israel with HUC-JIR serving as a New Israel Fund Elissa Froman Fellow and participating in the Rabbinic Students Seminar at the Shalom Hartman Institute. Before being called to the rabbinate, Sivan earned her JD in 2006 and her MFA in poetry with a dual emphasis on teaching and Judaic Studies from Brooklyn College in 2013. As a professor of gynocentric Torah and creative writing, Sivan has taught at Brooklyn College, Tel Aviv University, Columbia/Barnard Hillel, Moishe House, Ritualwell, and in synagogues, living rooms, and institutions across the globe. As a copywriter for The Museum of the Jewish People, she is committed to furthering the museum's mission of strengthening Jewish identity among a diverse and pluralistic Jewry. To that end, Sivan creates and implements programming that identifies gender inequality in Judaism and empowers Jewish women through feminist advocacy and serves as the Education Director of Achayot - Jewish Women Writers. She currently lives in Jerusalem with her husband, drummer, percussionist, and Jewish educator Matt Teitelman, and their children, Aidan Avishai and Elsie Dani.

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**YOAV SCHAEFER**

*Jewish Studies, Princeton University*

Yoav Schaefer is a second-year doctoral student at Princeton University. His research focuses on modern Jewish thought and modern Jewish intellectual history. Yoav received a BA in Social Studies from Harvard University in 2015 and studied Jewish philosophy at Tel Aviv University. He was also a 2017-18 Dorot Fellow. Prior to beginning his academic studies, Yoav served as a combat soldier and self-defense instructor in the Israel Defense Forces. Together with his family, he also founded the Avi Schaefer Fund in memory of his identical twin brother Avi in 2010.



**ERICA SHAPS**

*Jewish Professional Leadership, Tufts University*

Erica Shaps is the Educational Programs and Resources Manager at the Inter-Agency Task Force on Israeli Arab Issues. She recently completed her Master of Arts in Law and Diplomacy at the Fletcher School at Tufts University. While in graduate school, Erica completed a research project on Eritrean migration in Kampala, Uganda, for Save the Children US and also researched religious literacy in humanitarian response work for Oxfam America. Erica previously worked as a Middle East Program Coordinator for Encounter. In this role, she planned programs in the West Bank to help cultivate more informed and constructive Jewish leadership on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Previously, as a Fellow at the Joint Distribution Committee, Erica supported employment programs for vulnerable communities in Israel, particularly Arab citizens of Israel and *Haredim*. She received her BA from Brandeis University in Islamic & Middle Eastern Studies and International & Global Studies.

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**LIZ SHAYNE**

*Jewish Education/Rabbinat, Yeshivat Maharat*

Liz Shayne is a student at Yeshivat Maharat in Riverdale, New York. She received her BA in English from the University of Pennsylvania, her MA from New York University, and her PhD from the University of California, Santa Barbara. Her doctoral work focused on the role technology plays in shaping the reader's emotional experiences with specific books and her primary case study was the Babylonian Talmud. She was also one of the first to use the Sefaria.org open-source data-set to create data visualizations, and her work was featured both on the site and in their publications. At Yeshivat Maharat, Liz looks forward to taking her research out of academia and using it to help both students and teachers introduce technology into their learning in a mindful and intentional fashion that fosters a deep love for Judaism grounded in our history and literature. Though she misses Santa Barbara, Liz is glad to be back in New York, where she grew up. She and her family now live in Riverdale, where she teaches Hebrew school at the Hebrew Institute of Riverdale on Sundays and slowly teaches her toddler to sit through the whole *Torah* service on *Shabbat*.

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### MICHAELA SLUTSKY

*Jewish Professional Leadership, NYU Wagner/Skirball*

Michaela Slutsky is currently an Education Consultant at The Jewish Education Project. She recently completed her dual Master's at NYU Wagner/Skirball, receiving her MPA in non-profit management and MA in Hebrew and Judaic Studies. Previously, Michaela partnered with a fellow Wexner Alumni to create RUACH: Emotional and Spiritual Support, an online mental health start-up to support the Jewish community during the COVID-19 pandemic. Before that, Michaela was the Program Manager for the Applied Research Collective for American Jewry, a startup initiative from NYU Bronfman Center, developing an academic fellowship and communal Roundtable. Michaela began her career as the Program Director of Teen and Young Adult Services at Marks JCH of Bensonhurst in Brooklyn, NY, where her passion for experiential Jewish education and communal identity began. Michaela served as Camp Director at B'Yachad, a unique educational, overnight camping experience for Russian-speaking Jewish (RSJ) teens focused on Russian Jewish heritage and exploration of personal identity. Michaela is a native New Yorker whose family is originally from the FSU. Michaela holds a BS in Business Economics, is a Birthright Fellow, and was a UJA-Federation Graduate Fellow.



### LEEAD STALLER

*Rabbinate, Yeshiva University-Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary*

Leead Staller is a Semikha student at Yeshiva University, Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary and a MA candidate in Jewish History at the Bernard Revel Graduate School. Leead graduated from the University of Pennsylvania with a BA in Intellectual History and Humanistic Philosophy. Academically, Leead spent much of his time in Penn pursuing different research projects, writing an honors thesis in both History and Philosophy, in addition to a number of side projects. Outside of classwork, Leead dedicated most of his time to his main passion, the Orthodox Community at Penn (OCP). Serving as the community's Co-Chair, Leead formed and managed over a dozen committees including a major fundraising operation and coordinated large scale events for hundreds of students in the Penn Hillel. Looking towards the future, Leead hopes to take the lessons he learned in the OCP, build upon them during his time in YU, and ultimately work towards being a pulpit leader who can help strengthen the Jewish community.



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### DAVID YEDID

*Jewish Education/Rabbinate, Jewish Theological Seminary*

Dave Yedid is in his final year at The Jewish Theological Seminary, pursuing rabbinic ordination and an MA in Gender. Raised in Port Washington, New York, Dave graduated from Middlebury College with honors, where he was a pioneer in the Jewish, LGBT, and dance communities. He worked at Camp Ramah in the Rockies for eight summers in various leadership capacities. There, he combined his passions for guiding Jewish youth, leading wilderness trips, and experiential education. Deepening his passions for healing and direct care, Dave worked for therapeutic wilderness programs, where he supported young adults and teens to heal from traumas of suicidal ideation, addiction, abuse, and mental illness. Dave is an alumnus of Yeshivat Hadar and Nativ College Leadership Program. Since starting at JTS, Dave was a rabbinic intern at BaMidbar Wilderness Therapy, NYU Bronfman Center, and an eldercare chaplain at The New Jewish Home. Dave is currently Cooperberg-Rittmaster Rabbinical Intern at Congregation Beit Simchat Torah. Dave lives with his *fiancee*, Daniel, on the Upper West Side. In his free time, he loves exploring the outdoors, dancing, and reading poetry.



**HANNAH KAPNIK ASHAR**

*Rabbinate, Hadar*

Hannah Kapnik Ashar is a fellow in Hadar's Advanced Kollel. Hannah is a faculty member at The Bronfman Fellowship, where she previously was Manager of Fellowship Year Experience. She served for five years as the Associate Spiritual Leader of Congregation Bonai Shalom, the Conservative synagogue in Boulder, Colorado. Hannah co-founded The Tefilah Retreat, a weekend of Jewish spiritual practice for young adults, and Come & Listen, podcast of Jewish existential ideas, for which she was an Upstart Fellow. Hannah consulted on the Girls In Trouble Curriculum, exploring creative interpretation of stories of women in *Tanach*. Hannah participated in the 2017 Kenissa: Network of Communities of Meaning Consultation, the 2019 M2 Senior Educators Cohort, and Ayeka Soulful Educator Training. Hannah has been a birth doula since 2011. She graduated from Wellesley College *cum laude* and has studied at Hadar and Pardes. Hannah is married to Yoni, a neuroscientist and clinical psychologist who studies chronic pain and placebo in the brain. Their daughters are Zivi, Ayala, and Mira Tair.



**AYA BARON**

*Rabbinate, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College*

Aya Baron is a scholar, wilderness educator, and ritualist pursuing rabbinic ordination at Reconstructionist Rabbinical College after completing her MA in Jewish Studies from the Graduate Theological Union. This fall, she will serve Congregation Beth Israel as a Rabbinic Intern. Recently, she has co-authored the *Azazel Chapbook*, a *Yom Kippur* mini-mahzor, with the Shamir Collective, and worked as a consultant for Jewish organizations striving to bring earth-based Jewish programming to their communities. Her studies build on six years of leadership at Wilderness Torah, an organization committed to reconnecting Judaism to its natural cycles. Here she established herself as a pioneer in earth-based Jewish education by developing outdoor rites of passage experiences for *B'ina* Mitzvah-age youth, training local and international teams of educators, and expanding the reach of Wilderness Torah's programs. Aya has also worked for Urban Adamah, Hazon, The Jewish Farm School, and Eden Village Camp. Aya holds a bachelor's degree with honors from Brown University in Contemplative Education, which serves as the foundation for her rabbinate.



**EMMANUEL CANTOR**

*Rabbinate, Hebrew College*

Emmanuel is a second-year rabbinical student at Hebrew College, and serves as the rabbinic intern at the Slifka Center for Jewish Life at Yale. Before rabbinical school, Emmanuel worked as a community organizer for Jews United for Justice, a grassroots organization advancing social, racial, and economic justice in DC and Maryland. While doing so, he lived with \*eleven\* housemates in an *Avodah Bayit*, an intentional, cooperative community committed to exploring the intersections of Jewish identity and justice work. Emmanuel earned his BA at Yale, where he majored in Women's, Gender, and Sexuality Studies. While at college Emmanuel taught New Haven middle schoolers, facilitated workshops on consent and bystander intervention, guided backpacking trips, and led an egalitarian *minyan*. Emmanuel has also studied at Yeshivat Maale Gilboa in northern Israel, a big change in scenery from his native New York City. When he is not working or in class, you can find Emmanuel practicing yoga, trying his best in the kitchen, or running to early 2000's top 40.





**EZRA COHEN**

*Rabbinate, Yeshiva University-Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary*

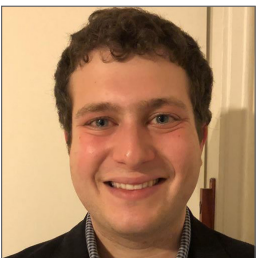
Ezra Cohen is a third-year rabbinical student at Yeshiva University's Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary. He graduated Brandeis University *summa cum laude* (*Phi Beta Kappa*) in 2018 with Bachelors' Degrees in Psychology and Near Eastern/Judaic Studies, where he wrote a senior honors thesis on the Jewish legal treatment of depressive disorders and received the Finstein Award for Outstanding Academic Achievement. During his college years, Ezra volunteered for a variety of organizations, delivered a regular class on Jewish law to students, conducted research on depression and stigma in medical residents at the New York State Psychiatric Institute, and served as a peer mental health counselor. He lives now in Washington Heights, where he teaches at a local synagogue and eats a lot of pretzels and hummus. In his free time, Ezra writes music and enjoys DJing and mountain biking. Following rabbinical school, he is looking forward to bringing love and *Torah* to the American Jewish community on a professional level.



**SHIRA ELIASSIAN**

*Jewish Studies, Yale University*

Shira Eliassian is pursuing a PhD at Yale in the religious literary-history of the ancient Mediterranean, focusing on the emergence of rabbinic Judaism and early Christianity. Her work is driven by questions of religious innovation, identity formation, and the politics of orthodoxy. While her research is grounded in antiquity, her work has been shaped by her experiences as a Jewish feminist. After graduating *Phi Beta Kappa* from Barnard, Shira began working for the Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance. There, she oversaw the JOFA Blog, produced the Joy of Text, organized an international college *shabbaton*, and engineered the first JOFA *Maharat* Summer Tour. As the Kaufman Fellow at University of Chicago's Divinity School, Shira continued to advocate for women's inclusion, leadership, and education by teaching throughout North America and the UK. In 2018, Shira served as JOFA UK's Be'er Miriam Scholar, speaking about ritual theory and Jewish feminism on high school and college campuses in England and Scotland. As Shira moves deeper into her studies, she intends to use lessons learned from late antique religious identity formation to renegotiate the boundaries of orthodoxy in the present. Ultimately, she hopes to fashion a career that allows her to fully live out her Jewish, feminist, and academic ambitions.



**BENJAMIN GLADSTONE**

*Jewish Studies, New York University*

Benjamin Gladstone is a third-year doctoral student in the Joint Program in Hebrew and Judaic Studies and History at New York University. His research focuses on Yemeni and Adeni Jewish migration history and intellectual and cultural history in Mandate Palestine and Israel. He received a BA in Judaic Studies and Middle East Studies from Brown University in 2018 and received honors for his thesis on the idea of an "Ingathering of Exiles," on relations between the American, Israeli, and Yemeni Jewish communities during Operation On Eagles' Wings, the most significant migration of Yemen's Jewish community to Israel. He works as a Research Assistant at NYU's Asylum Lab and Center for Israel Studies. In addition to his academic work, Benjamin has long engaged in pro-Israel advocacy. In the last few years, he has also led advocacy, fundraising, and education efforts in support of refugees, against American involvement in the ongoing civil war in Yemen and drone warfare, and in support of LGBTQIA+ rights. He also volunteers doing legal paperwork to support RAICES. Benjamin is also an opinions journalist, writing primarily on Jewish issues for publications ranging from *Tablet* Magazine and *Haaretz* to *The New York Times*.



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**MOLLY GOLDMEIER**

*Jewish Professional Leadership, Brandeis University*

Molly Goldmeier is the Assistant Director at Brown RISD Hillel in Providence, Rhode Island. Molly is a graduate of Brandeis University, where she pursued an MBA in Non-Profit Management at the Heller School for Social Policy and Management and an MA in Jewish Professional Leadership from the Hornstein Program. Molly spent her summers attending Camp Stone in Sugar Grove, PA, where she served as Head of the Wilderness Program and Head of Camp. Prior to graduate school, Molly spent three years working in the corporate offices at Warby Parker and J.Crew, focusing on corporate social responsibility, branding, and campaign strategy. Molly is excited to leverage lessons from the fashion industry to help develop creative, sustainable, and inclusive Jewish experiences and spaces.



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**LILY GOLDSTEIN**

*Jewish Education/Rabbinate, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion*

Lily Goldstein is a fourth-year rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Prior to beginning her studies at HUC-JIR, Lily worked as a full-time educator at Central Synagogue, a Reform congregation in Manhattan. At Central, Lily taught religious school and led youth and family *Shabbat* programming, reinforcing her lifelong appreciation for family Jewish education. She graduated *cum laude* from Northwestern University in 2016 with a BS in Journalism and American Studies. At Northwestern, Lily served as co-president of Northwestern Hillel, where she led the Reform prayer community, piloted a now-annual student *Shabbaton* retreat, and developed interfaith partnerships on campus. Lily is passionate about community building, creating inclusive Jewish spaces, and supporting all Jews in finding and connecting to a Judaism that is meaningful for them. In her free time, Lily is usually reading a good book.

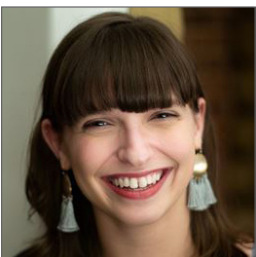


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**SARAH GORDON**

*Jewish Education, Yeshiva University, Azrieli Graduate School*

Sarah Gordon, originally from Montreal, Canada, is an EdD student at Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education. She currently serves as Director of Israel Guidance and Experiential Education at Ma'ayanot Yeshiva High School, where she teaches *Talmud* and directs a course on Contemporary Israel, with an emphasis on dual narratives and creating space for nuanced discussions about Israel. Sarah spent two years studying in GPATS (Graduate Program in Advanced Talmudic Studies) and holds dual MA degrees in Jewish Education and Modern Jewish History from Yeshiva University. She has spent time studying in education programs in Israel at Midreshet Lindenbaum, Pardes, and Matan, and is the recipient of the Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education. Her extensive experience in informal Jewish Education includes leadership positions at Camp Stone and Bnei Akiva's Mach Hach Ba'Aretz program. Currently, Sarah lives in Teaneck, NJ, with her husband and daughter. In her free time, Sarah enjoys running, hiking, and tennis, as well as rooting for Canadian sports teams.



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**AVIGAYIL HALPERN**

*Jewish Education/Rabbinate, Hadar*

Avigayil Halpern is studying toward rabbinic ordination as a member of Hadar's Advanced Kollel. She holds a BA in Judaic Studies from Yale University, where she completed a senior thesis exploring *Talmudic* narratives of women engaged in Torah discourse and the implications of such stories for feminists committed to the study of *Talmud* today. Avigayil is trained as a *Mikveh* Guide through Rising Tide, the national network of community *mikvaot*, and is an alumna of the Drisha Institute and Midreshet Ein HaNatziv. She has written on issues of Judaism, gender, and the left in Jewish and other media, and has been an opinion columnist for the *Yale Daily News*. Currently, Avigayil is writing a weekly *d'var Torah* on the *parsha* incorporating queer and feminist insights through her newsletter, *Approaching* (avigayil.substack.com).



**JOSHUA JACOBS**

*Rabbinite, American Jewish University*

Born in Los Angeles, Josh Jacobs attended day school at Valley Beth Shalom, where he first fell in love with the pursuit of a relationship with God. He received his BA in Jewish Studies from Emory University. After two years of writing for television, Josh realized that every episode he wrote was a thinly veiled *d'var Torah*, which is why he now attends the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies. A firm believer that story-telling is the most powerful vehicle for good ideas, he is fully committed to the Jewish story, seeking a life of service to people and conversation with God. Since enrolling at Ziegler, Josh participated in the JDC *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* Program in Tomsk, Siberia, where he taught Jewish Studies and officiated a joint *Bar/Bat Mitzvah* for a group of 50 Siberian Jews. He was a Jeremiah Fellow at Bend the Arc, where he learned grassroots organizing skills for social justice. As a Hartman Rabbinic Student Fellow, he learned how to facilitate and advance conversation around Israel. He has co-authored a chapter on Jewish approaches to end-of-life practices for an upcoming medical publication and is currently the rabbinic intern at Temple Beth Am.



**REBECCA KAUFMAN**

*Rabbinite, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion*

Rebecca Kaufman is a fourth-year rabbinical student at HUC-JIR. For two years she served as the student rabbi at Congregation Beth Jacob in El Centro, CA, leading services in English and Spanish. Before entering rabbinical school, Rebecca lived in New York and was most recently the Program Director at Amplifier, where she recruited Jewish leaders to attend workshops and conferences she developed and taught them how to build giving circles: groups of people who pool money and donate it together. Prior to that, she was a founding member of Echoing Green's Work on Purpose program, where she taught a career development curriculum to hundreds of faculty at universities. As a volunteer, Rebecca ran Town & Village Synagogue's young adult program. She was also an advisor for the Jewish Community Youth Foundation's teen philanthropy program. Rebecca was raised in New Jersey and received an AB from Princeton University in history focusing on Latin America. She was president of Princeton's Center of Jewish Life as a student, and she served on its board of directors and executive committee after graduating. She lives in LA with her husband, Tavi, a software engineer and oncology researcher, and their son Ari.



**HANNAH KOBER**

*Jewish Education, Stanford Graduate School of Education*

Hannah Kober is a third-year PhD student in Educational Linguistics with a concentration in Jewish Studies at Stanford Graduate School of Education. She researches, writes, and teaches about the social and political dimensions of language teaching and learning. She was most recently a Program Associate at the Shalom Hartman Institute of North America, where she coordinated research activities and programming for the North American faculty and fellows. Hannah graduated *magna cum laude* from Brandeis University with a BA in Judaic Studies and Linguistics, with an honors thesis on the motivations and experiences of Jewish Israeli university students pursuing Arabic studies. She served as an undergraduate representative for the Department of Near Eastern and Judaic Studies, and worked as a Research Assistant at the Mandel Center for Studies in Jewish Education. She is an alumna of Yeshivat Hadar's Full-Year Fellowship ('16-'17), during which she co-taught Judaics at a day school and co-founded Tisch-ish, Uptown Manhattan's *niggun* circle. From Queens, NY, Hannah enjoys cooking *sans* recipes, drawing, going on short-but-fulfilling runs, and bringing people together in song.

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**LAUREN LUGER**

*Jewish Professional Leadership, Brandeis University*

Lauren Luger is the Operations and Communications Manager of Hadar's Pedagogy of Partnership. Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Lauren attended Brandeis University where she earned a BA in Education Studies, receiving the Sizer Education Studies Award, and minored in French and Judaic Studies. While at Brandeis, Lauren worked for Hillel for three years, was with the Gateways Program, tutored children with cognitive disabilities for their *B'inai Mitzvah*, and was a Roosevelt Fellow. Upon graduating, Lauren became the Assistant Director of Education at Baltimore Hebrew Congregation where she created and facilitated formal and informal educational programs for all ages, with a focus on youth engagement. She co-launched an 8th-12th grade program that connects teens to their Judaism through flexible, unique, and immersive programming. Lauren most recently earned her MA in Jewish Professional Leadership and MBA in Nonprofit Management from the Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program. Lauren aims to build a stronger foundation for Judaism to take shape; a foundation that connects with modern trends and breathes Judaism into every aspect of living and learning.



**MIRIAM MOSTER**

*Jewish Studies, CUNY Graduate Center*

Miriam Moster is a doctoral student in sociology at The Graduate Center (CUNY) and a Mellon Humanities Public Fellow. She received her MFA in poetry and BA in philosophy and draws on humanistic theory as well as quantitative and qualitative methods in her social science research. Alongside her research into the experiences of parents who leave strict religious communities, Miriam founded Right to Parent to support and advocate for parents in that situation. Prior to pursuing her PhD, Miriam taught undergraduate courses in English and literature and also taught at Beit Rabban, where she had the opportunity to participate in the Jewish New Teacher Project. In 2012 Miriam helped form Yaffed and served as executive director through 2014. Her book chapter on the relationship between educational attainment and disaffiliation from Orthodox Judaism was published in *Off the Derech: Post-Orthodox Jewish Writing* (SUNY Press).



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**SION SETTON**

*Yeshiva University, Azrieli Graduate School*

Sion Setton is a student at Azrieli, Yeshiva University's Graduate School of Jewish Education, where he is pursuing an Executive Model EdD in Jewish Educational Leadership and Innovation. He received his BA in psychology from Yeshiva College, his ordination from the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary, and his MEd in Educational Leadership from Brooklyn College. Sion serves as the principal of Yeshivah Prep, a high school for students seeking individualized education within a day-school environment. In the past, Sion worked at Ramaz Middle School, Barkai Yeshiva, Congregation Magen David of Manhattan, and the Edmond J. Safra Synagogue. At Azrieli, Sion plans to focus his doctoral research on investigating the intersectionality of adolescence experiencing ADHD and Spirituality. In the future, Sion hopes to lead a vibrant, traditional, and inclusive Sephardic institution and to embody a humanistic Sephardic Torah with the values of *Ahavat Israel* (love of all Jews) and *Kevod Habriot* (respect for all). He lives with his wife, Mijal, and two children, Ness and Mazali, in lower Manhattan.





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**ORA WEINBACH**

*Jewish Education, Yale Divinity School*

Ora Weinbach is pursuing a Masters of Divinity degree at Yale Divinity School. She is also the Community Educator at The Jewish Center in Manhattan. Prior, she taught *Limmudei Qodesh* (Judaic Studies) and served as the 9th Grade Dean at the Abraham Joshua Heschel High School. She earned her degree in Jewish Education from Yeshiva University as a member of the first graduating cohort of the Legacy Heritage Fellowship Program, and has since been honored to teach Jewish learners of every age. Utilizing her certification in sexuality education, completed through Planned Parenthood University, Ora teaches human sexuality to both teens and parents. She also consults with Jewish day schools on sexuality education curriculum development and execution. She is a yoga enthusiast, loves reading epic fantasy novels, and drinking coffee. She lives in Brookline, MA, with her husband Aaron Troy.



**EMILY GOLDBERG WINER**

*Rabbinite, Yeshivat Maharat*

Emily Goldberg Winer is a student at Yeshivat Maharat in Riverdale, NY, and will *Y"H* be the incoming rabbinic intern at the Stanton Street Shul. She has interned at Congregation Beth Sholom, Columbia/Barnard Hillel, and completed a unit of CPE at NYP-Columbia. She has taught at Genesis at Brandeis, the Hebrew Home of Riverdale, and countless *B'nei Mitzvah* students. She has most recently completed the 92nd Street Y Jewish Innovation, Join for Justice, and the Shalom Hartman Rabbinical Student Fellowships. She graduated *magna cum laude* from Muhlenberg College where she studied Religion and Jewish Studies. There, she was a research intern at the Institute for Jewish-Christian Understanding, compiling resources for the Jewish Annotated New Testament and rabbinic references for Christian Lectionary readings. Committed to interfaith dialogue and pluralism, she has engaged in religious diversity at the Bronfman Youth Fellowship, Drisha, the Hartman Institute, Tanenbaum, and Auburn. Emily lives in Riverdale with her husband Jonah, and when not learning *Torah* or brainstorming ways to make Judaism more inclusive, she loves people and dog watching, volunteering at soup kitchens, and subtly adding puns into normal conversations.



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**JONAH WINER**

*Jewish Education/Rabbinite, Yeshivat Chovevei Torah*

A Toronto native, Jonah Winer is a student at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah. Jonah most recently completed a rabbinic internship at The Kehilah of Riverdale. Inspired by justice work and community building, Jonah has participated in the Jewish Innovation Fellowship at the 92nd Street Y and a summer fellowship at T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights. He has worked for Uri L'Tzedek and the Interfaith Center of New York and in between spent summers learning *Torah* at Drisha. He felt inspired to pursue the rabbinite during his time as an undergraduate at McGill University, where he studied religion and served in various leadership roles in Montreal's student-led McGill *Chavurah*. His work in college showed him the need for inclusive Orthodox communities, and for religious leaders capable of building them. Jonah lives in Riverdale with his wife, Emily, a rabbinical student at Yeshivat Maharat, and can talk about podcasts for hours on end.



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**MINDY SCHWARTZ ZOLTY**

*Jewish Education, Yeshiva University*

Mindy Schwartz Zolty is a graduate of Yeshiva University's Graduate Program in Advanced Talmudic Studies (GPATS). Mindy holds a BA in Judaic Studies and Art History from Stern College for Women. Mindy currently serves as the Community Scholar at Lincoln Square Synagogue (LSS) on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. Before starting as an intern at LSS in 2019, she served as the Adult and Teen Educator for Congregation Keter Torah in Teaneck and as a lecturer and group leader at Congregation Ohab Zedek on the Upper West Side. In her free time Mindy volunteers as a crisis counselor for Crisis Textline and as a hotline operator for the National Eating Disorder Association.



**DIMITRY EKSHTUT**

*Rabbinate, Yeshivat Chovevei Torah*

Dimitry Ekshtut is an educator, musician, and builder of Jewish community. He is the co-founder of Based in Harlem and Kehillat Harlem. Born in Leningrad, Russia, Dimitry immigrated with his family at the age of five to Philadelphia, PA. While in middle and high school, he fell in love with the guitar and jazz music, motivating him to move to New York and pursue a career as a professional musician. He holds a Bachelor's of Music (Jazz Performance) degree and a Master's of Music Education, both from New York University. Dimitry has had an active career teaching music in public, private, and charter schools throughout New York City. Dimitry has spent the past four years working to build Jewish community in Harlem. Along with his wife Erica, Dimitry has directed Based in Harlem, a project of Base Hillel, since 2017 and has welcomed over 1,600 unique individuals to his home for *Shabbat*, holiday celebrations, learning, and service opportunities. Additionally, Dimitry is a co-founder and lay leader of Kehillat Harlem, a synagogue and prayer community in Upper Manhattan. Dimitry is currently studying full-time toward rabbinic ordination at Yeshivat Chovevei Torah while continuing his community building and leadership in Harlem.



**MICHAEL FINGERMAN**

*Jewish Professional Leadership, Brandeis University*

Michael Fingerman currently lives in Cambridge, MA, while pursuing his MA in Jewish Professional Leadership and Social Impact MBA at Brandeis University. Originally from North Bellmore, NY, Michael graduated with a BA in Urban Studies, dual minors in Economics and Social Work, and a certificate in Jewish Studies from the University of Pittsburgh in 2015. He spent the past five years in Atlanta, GA, where he helped build community as a resident of the Moishe House in Toco Hills. Upon graduating, he worked for one year as the Jewish Student Life Coordinator at Emory Hillel and then spent four years working at Ramah Darom first as the Youth and Program Assistant and later as the Camp Program Director. While overseeing scheduling, trips, special programs, and logistics for Camp Ramah Darom, he enjoyed his summers living in the North Georgia mountains and now spends his free time exploring the gorgeous nature in the Northeastern states. When they're not traveling, hiking, or camping, Michael and his wife Leah are often found in the kitchen trying out new recipes together.

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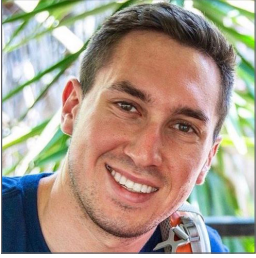


**ANNIE FORTNOW**

*Jewish Professional Leadership, Brandeis University*

Annie Fortnow is an incoming graduate student at Brandeis University's Hornstein Jewish Professional Leadership Program, planning to pursue a dual Master of Arts in Jewish Professional Leadership and Social Impact MBA from the Heller School for Social Policy and Management. After graduating with an undergraduate degree in Environmental Health and Justice from Brandeis University in 2017, Annie became a Springboard Social Justice Fellow at UMass Amherst Hillel, focusing on engaging Jewish students around social change. As a Springboard Fellow, Annie received intensive training from Repair the World in social justice, inclusion, and community organizing as an engagement tool. After two years as a Springboard Fellow at UMass, Annie moved south to work for the JumpSpark Jewish teen initiative at the Jewish Federation of Greater Atlanta. In this role, Annie focuses on relationship building with teens, parents, and professionals, and she incubates and funds innovative programming to enhance Jewish teen education and engagement locally. Annie strives to use innovation as a tool to help our Jewish community become more inclusive and equitable for all. In her free time, Annie engages in political activism, improv comedy, and hiking.

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**ZACHARY GOLDBERGER**

*Jewish Education, Brandeis University*

Zach Goldberger currently resides in Boston, Massachusetts, as a first-year graduate student in the Jewish Educational Leadership program in the Hornstein school at Brandeis University. Before attending graduate school, Zach served as the Youth Director at Temple Israel in West Bloomfield, Michigan, and as a Teen Network Weaver for the Federation of Metropolitan Detroit. Through these roles, he experienced a full spectrum of Jewish youth work from teaching, programming, leading trips to Israel, community building, and working with an incredible group of kids, teens, and adults. Zach studied History at North Carolina State University in Raleigh, NC, and worked with a wide variety of Jewish communities during undergrad. He helped build a strong Jewish presence on NC State's campus as the president of Hillel, traveled all over the world as a fellow in the URJ Klal Yisrael Fellowship, and worked in camps as the Program Director of 6 Points and as a FJC Cornerstone fellow. This summer Zach will be the Head of TLV at Tamarack Camps in Michigan. Outside of school and work, Zach enjoys running, playing basketball, cooking, searching for restaurants seen on *Diners, Drive-Ins and Dives*, and adding to his record collection.



**ARIELLE KRULE**

*Rabbinate, Yeshivat Maharat*

Arielle Krule is a student in the core *semikha* track at Yeshivat Maharat (2025). She comes to Maharat after her success directing the Jewish Learning Fellowship, the largest Jewish educational program on campus in North America. She is a clinician for adolescents and adults at the Jewish Board for Family and Children's Services and the director of the CUNY Hillel Social Work Fellowship for MSW candidates across the New York City area. She has her BSW, MSW, SIFI certification, and certificate in Spirituality and Social Work from NYU and a certificate in Experiential Education from M2: The Institute for Experiential Jewish Education. Previously, Arielle was formerly a BBYO International Teen President, birth doula, yoga teacher, and women's health educator. Arielle and her husband Jackson live in Brooklyn, where they are community conveners, Burning Man attendees, Prospect Heights Shul members, and artisanal *challah* bakers.



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**ALEX MALANYCH**

*Jewish Education/Rabbinate, Reconstructionist Rabbinical College*

Alex Malanych currently lives in Philadelphia, PA, and works as the Director of Education for Camp Havaya. Over the past decade, Alex has worked with a variety of Jewish camps, synagogues, and non-profits as an educator, including Camp Kingswood, NFTY, BBYO, and Emma Kaufmann Camp as a Chizuk Fellow. Alex is passionate about helping others develop deeper connections to social justice, leadership, and Jewish expression through experiential learning. After completing a Master's in English at the University of Vermont, Alex pursued graduate research at the University of Pittsburgh focused on queer Jewish liturgy before earning a Master's in Jewish Education from Gratz College. Alex will be starting at the Reconstructionist Rabbinical College in Fall 2021.





**KAREN MARTIN**

*Rabbinate, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion*

Karen Martin is a rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College - Jewish Institute of Religion. Prior to rabbinical school, Karen was Executive Director at Rockdale Temple in Cincinnati, OH. During her time at Rockdale Temple, Karen modernized systems, grew and supported her staff team, and helped to found shabbatCTY, a joyful and itinerant *Shabbat* experience in Cincinnati's urban core. She also served on the Board of Cincinnati Hillel. Previously, Karen worked as Assistant Director of Metro Chicago Hillel and was Director of the Lewis Summer Internship Program (LSIP) for the Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago. During her time in Chicago, Karen also taught religious school for many years at Anshe Emet Synagogue. Karen has an MA in Jewish Professional Studies from the Spertus Institute of Learning and Leadership, an MA in the Humanities from the University of Chicago, and a BA from Kenyon College where she majored in English and Creative Writing.



**ROZEETA MAVASHEV**

*Jewish Professional Leadership, Hunter College*

A graduate from the College of Staten Island with a BA in Education and English Literature, Rozeeta Mavashev has a passion for education that has motivated her volunteerism and future career path choices. While interning as an Engagement Associate at CSI Hillel, Rozeeta volunteered at The Hebrew Academy for Special Children and Bais Ezra, gaining experience in diverse Jewish non-profit organizations. Today she is the Director of Jewish Student Life at Tanger Hillel, serving as an educator and community organizer striving for a diverse and inclusive community for all students, and working closely with the Mizrahi and Sephardi constituency. Being of Bukharian descent, her ability to cater to the needs of these diverse communities is exemplary. She is pursuing an MSW to provide the tools and guidance needed for her students to gain confidence as Jewish leaders and individuals. Simultaneously, Rozeeta is an aspiring comic who loves to make people laugh, her love of performing arts has grown through her participation in BCI and The People's Improv Theater. As a first-generation American, having parents who migrated from Uzbekistan, Rozeeta is the first in her family to pursue a Master's Degree and owes it all to their ongoing support.

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**SASS OROL**

*Rabbinate, Jewish Theological Seminary*

Sass Orol is a first-year rabbinical student at JTS. Before starting rabbinical school in 2020, Sass grew up and worked in North Carolina. In their home community in Raleigh, Sass ran youth groups and programs for their home *shul*, taught Jewish music at the *shul's* preschool and at their local JCC day camp, and organized with Carolina Jews for Justice. Sass also completed an MFA in Creative Writing and taught English at NCSU while working on a book of poems with queer Jewish themes. Sass is passionate about words, tunes, and rituals, and hopes to continue to lead with a sense of literary and musical inheritance and creativity. In the Spring of 2020, Sass taught an original text curriculum to trans students at NC colleges and universities. Sass spent their first summer in the city in CPE, as Chaplain for The Fortune Society and The New Jewish Home.



**AIDEN PINK**

*Rabbinate, Jewish Theological Seminary*

Aiden Pink is a rising second-year rabbinical student at the Jewish Theological Seminary. Before returning to school, he served as the deputy news editor of *The Forward*, the national Jewish news organization, where he reported on American and Israeli politics, antisemitism, and Jewish institutions. His work received commendations from the American Jewish Press Association and the New York chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists. Aiden graduated with honors from American University, where he served on the Jewish Student Association board and led *Shabbat* services at Hillel. He has taught at supplemental religious schools in Minnesota and Washington, D.C., and as an independent *b'nai mitzvah* tutor in New York. He is a proud alumnus of Herzl Camp, where he worked for many summers on the education team, and the Minneapolis Jewish Day School, where he later returned to coach its basketball team to an undefeated season. Aiden lives on Manhattan's Upper West Side with his *fiancee*, Aniko.



**SARAH POLLACK**

*Jewish Education/Rabbinate, Hebrew College*

Sarah Pollack is currently a Rabbinical School student at Hebrew College. Although she grew up in Florida, she now lives in Cambridge with her wife, Elana. As a child, Sarah felt a strong sense of Jewish identity but lacked formal ways to articulate her spiritual yearning. She immersed herself in Jewish life at The University of Florida while pursuing a BA in Forensic Anthropology. After spending a summer in Uganda as part of a volunteer program with AJWS and a semester abroad at the University of Haifa, Sarah was eager to continue her exploration of Judaism and Jewish Peoplehood. She moved to Jerusalem, where she spent two years learning at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies, first as the Social Justice Fellow, and then on the Judaism and Conflict Resolution track. As a Pardes Fellow, Sarah organized volunteer opportunities and facilitated community-building programming. Her professional journey started at Encounter, where she spent the next four years exploring the ways that Jewish American professionals and lay leadership engage with Palestinians. Sarah most recently worked for Honeymoon Israel as the Director of Community Engagement, empowering young Jewish families to explore their relationships to Jewish community and identity.

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**RACHEL ROSENSWEIG**

*Yeshiva University, Graduate Program in Advanced Talmudic Studies and Azrieli Graduate School*

Rachel Rosensweig, originally from Woodmere, NY, is a current student at Yeshiva University's Graduate Program in Advanced Talmudic Studies (GPATS) as well as an MS-MA candidate in a dual degree: in Jewish education at the Azrieli School of Jewish Education and Administration and in medieval Jewish history at the Bernard Revel Graduate School of Judaic Studies. Rachel received her BA in Judaic studies and biology at Stern College for Women, where she organized weekly student-led *Torah* study groups as president of the *Beit Midrash* (Jewish study hall) Committee and coordinated weekly *Shabbat* services as Stern's *Minyan* Coordinator. Rachel has spent her summers as a counselor on various Jewish summer programs in the U.S., Israel, and Poland, exploring questions of Jewish identity and self with campers of varying religious backgrounds, nationalities, and physical and mental capabilities. In her spare time, Rachel enjoys hiking, reading, drawing, and spending quality time with friends.

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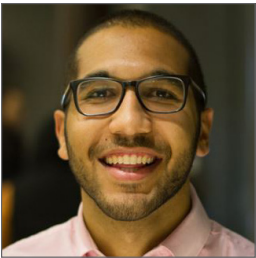


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**JARED SKOFF**

*Jewish Education/Rabbinate, American Jewish University*

Jared Skoff attends the Ziegler School of Rabbinic Studies at AJU in Los Angeles, and is the program director of the National Ramah Commission, implementing conferences and leadership training for members of Ramah's summer staff and year-round fellowships. He has also worked as staff supervisor for Ramah Wisconsin's Tikvah program, supporting campers and young adults with disabilities. Jared is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis, where he studied Jewish, Islamic, and Near Eastern Studies. In his free time, he leads workshops on Yiddish dialects and Ashkenazi food culture, in an effort to give people access to undiscovered parts of their identity. Born and raised in Cleveland, Jared is proud to be a 4th generation Ohioan.



**EVAN TRAYLOR**

*Rabbinate, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion*

Evan Traylor is a first-year rabbinical student at Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion. Originally from Oklahoma City, he graduated from the University of Kansas studying political science, Jewish studies, and leadership studies. Prior to rabbinical school, Evan worked at the Union for Reform Judaism for four years creating new projects and initiatives in college and young adult engagement. He serves on the leadership team for Jewish Social Justice Roundtable and the Commission on Social Action for the Religious Action Center. Evan is an alum of many URJ youth programs, including the Greene Family Camp, NFTY in Israel, and the URJ Kutz Camp. During his freshman year of college, Evan served as the 2012-2013 North American President of NFTY, the Reform Jewish youth movement. Previously, he was an engagement intern for the University of Kansas Hillel, a trustee on the URJ Board, a student member of the Hillel International Board of Directors, a co-founder of the Hillel International Student Cabinet, and was honored with the *New York Jewish Week's* "36 Under 36" Award in 2016. Based in New York City, Evan is passionate about Judaism, social justice, reading, traveling, and Jayhawk basketball.



**JERICHO VINCENT**

*Rabbinate, Aleph Ordination Program*

Jericho Vincent is a writer and lecturer. Raised in an ultra-Orthodox rabbinical family, Jericho broke free as an adolescent in search of a self-determined life. While a night student in college, they founded Horizons Academy, an after-school program for at-risk teens. Jericho went on to earn a master's degree in public policy as a Pforzheimer Fellow at Harvard University, training in Public Narrative and Adaptive Leadership. After embarking on a spiritual journey through Buddhism and Sufism, Jericho returned to Judaism to excavate timely wisdom and practices from their family's ancient traditions. Jericho is the author of the memoir *Cut Me Loose* and the co-author of *Legends of the Talmud*. Their essays have appeared in *The New York Times*, *The Rumpus*, *Salon*, *The Daily Beast*, and *The Cut*. They have been named to *The New York Jewish Week's* 36 Under 36 and to *The Forward's* Forward 50 for their writing and their community organizing with ex-ultra-Orthodox Jews. They have lectured on trauma, gender, and transformation at colleges, organizations, and houses of worship across the country and are certified in Internal Family Systems Therapy coaching. Jericho lives in Brooklyn with their family and is currently studying for the rabbinate.



**CHLOE ZELKHA**

*Rabbinate, Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion*

Chloe Zelkha is a second-year rabbinical student at HUC-JIR in Cincinnati. She has spent the last ten years designing transformative programs for young people and adults. After graduating from Carleton College with a BA in Religion, she was trained as a community organizer through the JOIN for Justice Fellowship in Boston. There, she worked at The Food Project, a youth employment program that brings diverse cohorts of teens together to grow food and connect across difference. Looking to build immersive experiences like this in the Jewish community, she transitioned into a role as Fellowship Director at Urban Adamah, a Jewish farm in Berkeley, where she led semester-long deep dives for young adults into Jewish spirituality, farming, mindfulness, and social justice. After her dad died suddenly in 2017, she felt called to grief work and trained as a chaplain at UCSF Hospital, where she earned three units of CPE and offered spiritual care to those who were ill and dying. She is the co-founder of the COVID Grief Network, a mutual aid organization that offers free support and community to young adults who have lost someone to COVID-19. Chloe also holds a Master's in Education, focusing on transformative experiences from Harvard University.



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## THE WEXNER FOUNDATION

The Wexner Foundation trains and inspires leaders in the North American Jewish Community and the State of Israel. Through diverse, cohort-based educational programs, the Foundation invests in promising professionals and volunteers and gives them tools to exercise transformative leadership. Working in partnership with other foundations, philanthropists and communities, the Foundation strengthens North American Jewish life and Israel's public sector by making their leaders more skilled, visionary and collaborative.

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