A New Initiative in Adult Jewish Learning

Hebrew College and CJP have for decades shared a vision to create and support a community of learning through a robust program of adult Jewish education. We remain committed to offering serious and transformative Jewish learning for adults in Greater Boston. But we cannot do this alone. We thus created Leaders in Adult Learning, a first-of-its-kind initiative that prepares passionate leaders to inspire other adults in their communities to embark on the rewarding journey of Jewish learning.

Each year, twelve to sixteen fellows will participate in a nine-month training during which they will acquire the expertise to guide these adult learners in any number of study opportunities, including a “People of the Book” Bible-study group.

Leaders in Adult Learning

IF YOU VALUE:
• High-level adult Jewish learning with active and engaged colleagues
• Opportunities for personal growth and the development of new skills

AND COMMIT TO:
• Acquiring organizing and adult-learning facilitation skills, and exploring texts
• Engaging with other motivated adult learners
• Sharing your passion, skills, and knowledge

WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH:
• An exciting and stimulating encounter with other leaders and content experts
• The opportunity to extend and deepen your skills and previous Jewish learning experiences
• A challenge to “pay forward” by connecting with and inspiring other adult learners

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:
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To prepare for their new role as ambassadors and facilitators of adult Jewish learning, fellows will participate in comprehensive training focusing on:

COMMUNITY ORGANIZING
The cultivation of skills and methods used to build, inspire, and guide cohorts of adult learners.

ADULT-LEARNING FACILITATION AND BIBLE STUDY
The development of engaging and effective adult-learning and text-study strategies designed to elicit personal relevance and meaning.

Sessions will be led by renowned experts in the fields of community engagement, adult Jewish learning, and Jewish text study.

Qualifications and Selection Process
Hebrew College and CJP are seeking individuals with a demonstrated passion for adult Jewish learning, as well as prior experience with formal adult-learning programs, such as Me’ah.

Experience in Jewish communal or synagogue leadership is preferred. Strong candidates possess well-developed interpersonal and communication skills; an ability to inspire others; and a vision for revitalizing and expanding adult Jewish learning in their home communities and in Greater Boston.

Candidates are nominated by educators, clergy, and community leaders. They are then invited to Hebrew College for an interview.

COMMITMENT TO DIVERSITY
Hebrew College and Combined Jewish Philanthropies are committed to assembling cohorts of fellows with diverse backgrounds and perspectives. A central tenet of this initiative is to create a culture of respect and acceptance among participants, reinforcing Jewish values, and fostering curiosity and openness.

Orientation and Training

LATE SPRING
Orientation: Fellows meet instructors and receive summer assignments.

OCTOBER–APRIL
Fellows attend twelve dinner seminars (approximately once every two weeks) at Hebrew College on Wednesday evenings.

Fellows meet with LAL instructors and staff to identify the specific ways in which they will “pay forward” the gift of adult Jewish learning. They may choose to organize and lead a “People of the Book” Bible-study group; recruit and serve as resources for participants of other adult-learning programs offered by Hebrew College and CJP; and/or create new opportunities to involve adults in Jewish learning.

What we need more than anything else is not text-books, but text-people.
— Abraham Joshua Heschel