

MEMORIES

Michigan Hillel Winter Semester in Review June 2025



A NOTE FROM THE DESK OF THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER



I am so proud of the work of our incredible Hillel staff and student leaders, highlighted in the pages of our new magazine, Memories. This publication reflects a vibrant period of Jewish life on campus, even as we recognize the significant challenges of combating antisemitism. The end of the semester brought the surprise departure of President Ono. No matter who the next university president may be, Hillel's work continues. For nearly 100 years we have been here to ensure no Jewish student ever feels alone. Looking ahead, Hillel will continue to be their advocate.

Thank you for your support, we cannot do this vital work without you. "Kol Yisrael arevim zeh bazeh" - the Jewish people are responsible for one another.

Warm regards and Go Blue,

Rabbi Davey Rosen
Chief Executive Officer

SAVE THE DATE

Sunday, March 15, 2026
Michigan Hillel Centennial at The Big House

BOARD REFLECTIONS FROM

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES CHAIR



It has been an honor to serve as Chair of Michigan Hillel's Board of Trustees for the past two years. Together with our talented staff and dedicated board members, we have successfully navigated a leadership transition, the October 7th attack and its aftermath, and the significant shifts in Jewish life on campus. I'm so proud that despite all of this, Jewish life at Michigan continues to be strong, offering many options for engagement, whether through Shabbat and holiday observance, connecting with Israel, outdoor adventures, or simply finding ways to be in community with other Jewish students. Our Hillel truly has it all!

This coming year, we will celebrate Michigan Hillel's 100th anniversary, and I hope you'll join me and many others in honoring this momentous occasion. If history is any indicator, we have much to anticipate in our immediate future and the next 100 years.

Go Blue!

Abbey Frank

Chair, Board of Trustees

A SEMESTER RECAP FROM THE EXECUTIVE GOVERNING BOARD



It was an incredible semester! We cooked delicious meals in our new kosher test kitchen, hosted Noa Tishby and October 7 survivors Moran Stella Yanai and Noam Ben David, organized over one hundred distinct programs, and celebrated our seniors at President Ono's home. Each week we hosted hundreds of students for Shabbat services and dinner, and our Passover Seders both in our building and in students' homes were joyful.

The Executive Governing Board remains committed to enriching the lives of every student who walks through our doors. With the support of our staff and extraordinary community, we are excited to continue strengthening Michigan Hillel as the home for the leaders and best. Go Blue!

Executive Governing Board 2025

Naomi Jaroslaw ('26), Matan Berg ('27), Elijah Wiseman ('26),
Elliot Bramson ('27), Yaffa Klausner ('27), Zoe Cosgrove ('27)

THE BOARD AND STAFF OF HILLEL

MEET THE STAFF

SENIOR LEADERSHIP

Rabbi Davey Rosen *Chief Executive Officer*
Haley Schreier *Assistant Director*
Rabbi Lisa Stella *Senior Rabbi*
Diane Redman *Chief Financial Officer*
Ken Schneider *Chief of Staff*
Becca Goodman *Director of Development*

PROGRAMMING

Emma Voit *Manager of Jewish Student Life*
Allison Bloomberg *Israel Engagement Manager - IACT*
Rayla Claypool *Events & Operations Manager*
Danielle Fuchs *Springboard Innovation Fellow*
Shay Yitzhak *JAFL Israel Fellow*
Abby & Uri Lorkis *JLIC Co-Directors*

DEVELOPMENT

Sarah Balis *Development Manager*
Krin Klein *Database Manager*
Hannah Hoffman *Marketing Content Manager*

OPERATIONS

***Kristin Fowler** *Office Manager, of blessed memory*
Jonathan Shepard *Chef*
Matt Cherry *Building Custodian*
John Buffa *Security Coordinator*

MEET THE BOARD

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Abbey Frank *Chair*
Laurie Levenson *Immediate Past Chair*
Mandell L. Berman (z"l) *Honorary Chair*
Sara Aronovitz **Dana Aronson** **Rabbi Peter Berg**
Rabbi Elliot Cosgrove **Evan Gerstein**
Wendy Handler **Lt. Cdr. (Res.) Shimon G. Levy**
Andrea Fischer Newman **Brenda Rosenberg**
Dafna Rubinstein **Jeffrey Schlusell**
Josh Schostak **Andrew Sherman** **Henry Sholk**
Rachel Weiss-Berger **Jerry Wish**

ADVISORY COUNCIL

Stanley Frankel **Lynda Giles** **Seth Greenberg**
Joan Blumenstein Kessler **Michael Maddin**
Lynn Schraye **Bruce Sholk** **Susan Slabotsky**
Robert Stone **William Taubman**
Marshall Weinberg

EXECUTIVE GOVERNING BOARD

Naomi Jaroslaw *President*
Matan Berg *VP of Internal Operations*
Elijah Wiseman *VP of External Relations*
Elliot Bramson *VP of Engagement*
Yaffa Klausner *VP of Programming*
Zoe Cosgrove *VP of Financial Management*

WHO WE ARE

MAJOR EVENTS

“ Art Fest at Hillel was fabulous! I was so impressed by the incredible artistic talent on display! From paintings to crochet pieces to jewelry, there was something for everyone. It was also a blast to take an arts and craft break while chatting with friends!

- Addie Stone, '27



“ It was amazing to have Noa, Moran, and Noam come speak at Hillel to nearly 300 students and community members. I'm so grateful to not only have gotten to hear their stories of October 7th, but also to have had a chance to meet with and converse with them. I learned so much about Jewish pride and Moran and Noam are so inspiring to me for being able to rise above everything they've been through.

- Elliot Bramson, '27

“ Joining Senior Seminar this semester has been a transformative experience. After a great semester doing Life's Big Questions, I was super excited when I got the opportunity to join the Senior Seminar cohort. Not only do our weekly meetings allow me to connect with other Jewish students graduating this semester, but the sessions from Rav Lisa make me confident to live a meaningful Jewish life after graduation.

- Arin Hirsch, '25



SENIOR SEMINAR

HOST AT HOME

“ It was really nice to be able to get together again. My friends have been asking me to cook for them for a while, so it was nice to sit down and enjoy everything that I made with their help. I'm so glad Hillel offers their Host at Home program so I could welcome my friends to my home for Shabbat on campus.

- Julia Tenner, '25

”



“ Not everyone at Shabbat knew each other well but by the end of the night everyone talked to someone that they haven't before and made a new friend!

- Alana Rosen, '26

”

“ This trip to Israel was truly life-changing. The sightseeing was beautiful and unique. On top of that, the people we spoke to shared very interesting, deep, and diverse opinions and stories. We learned about what it was like to live in Israel for all different people and how communities overlap and interact. This was one of the most educational, fascinating, and exciting trips I have ever been on, and I will be looking for any opportunity to go back!

- Participant on Campus Leaders Trip, '27

”



ISRAEL EXPERIENCES



CHALLAH FOR HUNGER

“ Challah for Hunger is a great place to connect with Jewish community while also learning about an important Jewish tradition: making challah! This club has allowed me to feel welcomed and supported in the Jewish community on campus, allowing me to take a break from my studies and use my creativity, while we raise awareness and funds for food insecurity on campus by donating proceeds to the Maize and Blue Cupboard. I look forward to bakes and enjoy getting together with my friends while we support an important cause.

- Jaclyn Todromovich, '27
Co-President of Challah for Hunger



Challah for Hunger Fun Facts

100 Students baked challah this school year

Over **170** people purchased challah

More than **400** challahs were sold

\$1,940 raised for Maize & Blue Cupboard

L'DOR V'DOR LEGACY SOCIETY

Through deeply-touching legacy gifts, dozens of supporters in our L'Dor V'Dor (Generation to Generation) Society will have an everlasting impact on furthering our mission. These legacy supporters have chosen to care for our students by naming Hillel in their will, investing through charitable gift annuities, establishing endowment funds for programs that speak to their hearts and more. These donors have established funds to help support Shabbat programming, Welcome Week student engagement, and Jewish education, to name a few. In addition, we are deeply touched by the philanthropic spirit and generosity of our legacy supporters through Hillel's participation in the Ann Arbor Jewish community LIFE & LEGACY program. Thank you for always thinking of our students. Explore the many opportunities available for you to have a limitless, forevermore impact by contacting Becca Goodman, Director of Development, at (734) 769-0500 or rebeccg@umich.edu.

To view the list of L'Dor V'Dor Legacy Society members and our complete Donor Honor Roll, visit our website at: michiganhillel.org/draft



Greta Loewenthal '25

Highland Park, IL

Hillel Involvement

2021: Wolverine for Israel Board

2022: Israel Community Coordinator

2023: Governing Board

2024-2025: Senior Legacy Co-Chair
and Lynda Giles Fellow

Majors: Cognitive Science and Spanish

“ Thank you Michigan Hillel for strengthening my Jewish identity and inspiring me to lead a life guided by Jewish values. I am filled with gratitude for the skills I've developed through various leadership positions, as well as the relationships I've built with students and staff. I hope to continue making a lasting impact on the Jewish community beyond my time at Michigan. ”



Susan and Larry Slabotsky's connection to Hillel began in 1982 when they were students at Michigan.

Susan, originally from Kansas, and Larry, from Maryland, met at the Union during Hillel's Kol Nidre service. As fate would have it, past director Michael Brooks approached them that evening and asked where they were breaking the fast, inviting them to his home. That simple gesture sparked a lifelong relationship with each other and with Michigan Hillel.



Years later, Susan and Larry witnessed their son, Zachary, and daughter, Emily, attend Michigan and engage with Hillel, carrying forward the values and connections that first shaped their own lives. Susan deepened her involvement by joining the Board of Trustees and eventually serving as Board Chair. Today, she continues her leadership as Co-Chair of the **Centennial Celebration**, marking Michigan Hillel's 100th anniversary on **Sunday, March 15, 2026**, at Michigan Stadium, where we will honor the past and look toward the future.

Together, Susan and Larry Slabotsky have helped shape Michigan Hillel into a vibrant, welcoming home for Jewish students—a place where future Jewish leaders are nurtured, and lifelong connections are made. Their enduring legacy is not only in what they've given, but in the generations they've inspired.



UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN

Mandell L. Berman Center

1429 Hill Street, Ann Arbor, MI 48104

Non-Profit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Ann Arbor, MI
Permit No. 23



michiganhillel.org



[/Groups/MichiganHillelParents](https://www.facebook.com/Groups/MichiganHillelParents)



734.769.0500



michiganhillel@umich.edu



@MichiganHillel



UMHillel



@UMHillel



@michiganhillel

HILLEL BY THE NUMBERS



14,649

SHABBAT AND HOLIDAY
MEALS SUPPORTED
BY HILLEL ON CAMPUS



255

STUDENT LEADERS AND FELLOWS



1,062

STUDENTS ATTENDED ISRAEL-
RELATED PROGRAMMING
AND CELEBRATIONS



640

FRESHMEN INTERACTED
WITH HILLEL AT LEAST
ONCE DURING THE
SCHOOL YEAR



480

JEWSH PENICILLIN HOTLINE SOUPS SERVED



3,107

STUDENTS WERE TAKEN OUT TO COFFEE



25

GROUPS, CLUBS, AND FELLOWSHIPS

DONOR HONOR ROLL

Thank you to those who have made gifts to Hillel from
July 1, 2024 through May 15, 2025.

To view the honor roll, please visit our website at
www.michiganhillel.org/draft or scan the QR code below.



KEEP IN TOUCH

Scan the QR code below and choose how you would
like to receive communications from Michigan Hillel;
either email or print mail.
Questions? Please email Krin Klein at krinek@umich.edu



Michigan Hillel is an affiliate of Hillel International and
a partner agency of the Jewish Federation of Detroit

