

# THE 3<sup>RD</sup> ANNUAL DANA GERSHON AND RABBI JONAH PESNER NORTHEAST LEADERSHIP SUMMIT 2018

# #KNOWLEDGE WORKSHOPS

Northeast Teen Collective I <u>www.NortheastJewishTeens.org</u>

These workshops are designed to stretch participants' Judaic knowledge, so they learn something new; challenge participants to think about how they can use this information to inspire others; and encourage participants to consider how they can create concrete experiences for others related to the workshop topic.

# GENDER & SEXUALITY

## BEING REAL WITH ONE ANOTHER IN A #METOO WORLD

Laura Hyman, Boston Regional Director, <a href="https://www.uhyman.gov/ingtraditions.org">https://www.uhyman.gov/ingtraditions.org</a>

Moving Traditions, <u>www.movingtradtions.org</u>

This workshop is an opportunity for teens *of any gender* to explore what it REALLY means to be a teen today in a #metoo reality. The stress, the pressures, the confusing messages about gender and sexuality in 2018 - it's a LOT and (as you already know) it can get in the way of leading a healthy and happy life. Don't let it! Join us for an honest conversation and thoughtful, fun exercises with your friends.

## HEALTHY CONSENT AND JUDAISM

## Rabbi Liz Zeller, Director Learning and Innovation, ezeller@urj.org

### NFTY, www.nfty.org

Every wonder what Judaism has to say about sex, love and even marriage? We will explore, together, all three of these areas and then talk about what it means to give/get consent in a Jewish setting.

# ISRAEL

# AN UNTENABLE STATUS-QUO: AN ARRAY OF JEWISH, ISRAELI, AND PALESTINIAN SOLUTIONS-ORIENTED ACTIVISTS

Jesse Cerrotti, Northeast Director, jessecerrotti@gmail.com

### OneVoice, <u>www.ovcampus.org</u>

"I don't speak because I have the power to speak; I speak because I don't have the power to remain silent." This galvanizing quote by Rabbi A.Y. Kook has become a rallying cry for social justice activists in the Jewish community. Right now, across the Jewish world, their is no more pressing - and at the same time polarizing issue - as the Israeli-Palestinian question. There are all sorts of activists, utilizing different forms of advocacy, and with varying visions of what peace looks like. In this workshop, we will look at educational activism (1) in the United States with a focus on the OneVoice Movement, (2) activism in Israel with a focus on the civil-society movement Darkenu, and (3) the leading Palestinian non-violence activist movement, Zimam. We will discuss big questions facing Jewish and Israeli advocacy, such as when to speak up, and when speaking up means giving the platform to the other.

## HOW ISRAELI, POP, HIP-HOP, AND REGGAE OPEN UP CONVERSATIONS ABOUT ISRAEL

## Rabbi Reuven Greenwald, Director of Israel Engagement, <u>RGreenvald@urj.org</u>

### Union for Reform Judaism, <u>www.urj.org</u>

Today's Israeli music is a fusion of global musical genres, Jewish tradition, and modern Israeli culture. Some of Israel's leading artists use their musical platform to create space for important conversations about important societal questions. We will listen to examples of Israeli music in order to dive deep into critical issues facing Israel today. This will serve as a model for how to create programming like this on your own.

## WHAT IS BDS REALLY ?!

## Eric Maurer, Director, eric@jtconnect.org

## JTConnect, <u>www.jtconnect.org</u>

Being Jewish on campus can be confusing. Many colleges offer a range of ways to enhance your Jewish experience - but college can also challenge some deeply held beliefs, especially with regard to Israel and international politics. The Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions movement, commonly known as BDS, says its objective is to utilize international pressure to end what it describes as Israeli apartheid and colonialism. Join us as we explore different narratives to understand what BDS is and how it might manifest on college campuses. You will leave the workshop with tools to respond to BDS, regardless of your politics.

# MUSSAR & MINDFULNESS

## LEADING WITH BALANCE

## Samantha Walsh, Regional Director, BBYO NER, swalsh@bbyo.org

### BBYO, www.bbyo.org

This workshop will introduce you to mussar practice through the wellness wheel. Discover where you might need a bit more focus to create a more balanced life and be a more effective leader. While the session will introduce you to mussar concepts and the wellness wheel, you will explore with others where you are at your best and where you might need to spend more time in your life to feel more fulfilled. Together, we will discuss how to become more mindful as we lead others by taking care of ourselves.



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## SEPTEMBER VALUES MADNESS: WHAT REALLY MATTERS TO YOU?

### Josh Satok, Senior Assistant Director, jsatok@urj.org

### URJ Kutz Camp, www.kutzcamp.org

We all like to think that we're good people- that we are loving, compassionate, caring, respectful. But what happens when we put our values up against each other- which ones actually win out? In this workshop, we'll think together about our core Jewish values, and explore the way values appear across different religions to see what can make our values uniquely Jewish. We'll look at what some fascinating studies have to say about "American values" and see whether we feel similarly or different to what the statistics say about most Americans. And finally, we'll put our values up against each other in a March-Madness style bracket, forcing ourselves to rank and prioritize the many competing values we may hold, to figure out what really, truly matters to us and how we can use this knowledge to be better people and shape the world around us.

## Spiritual Thriving on Your Journey through The Spiritual Desert

Danny Mishkin, Camp Director, danny@sabababeachaway.org

## Sababa Beach Camps, <u>www.sabababeachaway.org</u>

Build your relationship with nature, a truer sense of self, other teens, and a Higher Power/God through meditation, reflection, and sharing of Jewish mantras. In a wilderness survival situation, one must find fire, water, food and shelter to survive and thrive. Our people's journey is an elongated wilderness survival situation in the desert, and their relationship with these elements will inspire us to be more spiritually fulfilled as we navigate our own teenaged/wilderness journeys. In this session you will find a Jewish mantra to help you seek passion, go forward, find balance, and ask for only what you need.

# TIKKUN OLAM

## **BUILDING A MOVEMENT - HOW TO BE A CHANGEMAKER**

### Logan Zinman Gerber, National Teen Campaign Organizer, LGerber@rac.org

### Religious Action Center, www.rac.org

Jews have a deep history of being involved in justice work in America, and today's youth activism around gun violence prevention is a continuation of that tradition. Come to this session to learn how to be a great partner and ally, create an action plan, and lead a movement.

## NONE OF US ARE FREE UNTIL WE ARE ALL FREE

### Alexa Broida, Director, <u>ABroida@urj.org</u>

### URJ Mitzvah Corps, www.mitzvahcorps.org

In this session, we will explore the ways to take our social justice engagement to the next level, to understand how each of us are uniquely positioned to fight against oppression and for liberation for all. Using recent campaigns and hot topics, we'll look at where the power lies, who sits at the table and who's missing, and how to ensure that we're structuring our initiatives to be sustainable and reflective of the communities we're working to support. We'll break down defining terminology, discover ways to lower barriers of social justice engagement for ourselves and our peers, and learn strategies for mobilizing and educating others.

## TIKUN OLAM NOW- WHY WAIT?

## Guy Felixbrodt, Executive Director, guy@jteenleadership.org

### J-Teen Leadereship, <u>www.www.jteenleadership.org</u>

Ever told you're too young to understand? Wait till you grow up? Make change then? FORGET it! Repairing the World can happen NOW. Come share from your knowledge and experience, learn tips from others, and be exposed to great Jewish Thinkers and Doers. The world around us could use a lot of help, and YOU are part of the solution. Be prepared to get inspired and activated and become a true DJ- Doing Jew!

## WITH GREAT POWER...BEING A MODERN DAY PROPHET

## Rabbi Andrew Goodman, Dean of Students, NY, agoodman@huc.edu

### HUC-JIR, www.huc.edu

Who were the prophets? How did they speak truth to power? What powers did they have that made them effective? What is your super power? In this session we will look at the Prophets – using comic books – to animate themes of call, purpose, peoplehood, and power as we think through how we make meaningful impact in our world.