

JOIN US ONLINE FOR

The Fall Shabbaton

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 7 –
SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2020



Dear Friends,

A year ago we gathered in an auditorium on Colby's campus after having spent a full Shabbat together. We danced to the banjo, fiddle, and bass of Nefesh Mountain, and welcomed in the new week with joy. We prayed, learned, sang, and ate together, and our cups overflowed. And you know what? We're going to do the same thing again this year. It will look a little different over Zoom—that's true—but we are still planning on bringing soulful music, excellent Jewish learning, globally inspired food, and warm community connection to you through the online Fall Shabbaton.

So, with just a couple of weeks left, it's time to register! Read on for more information about where to sign up, the schedule, and the incredible artists and thinkers who will bring us their music and their Torah teaching.

See you soon,
The Center Staff

Mark Your Calendars and Register

Saturday, November 7 and Sunday, November 8

It's the event you've been waiting for: the seventh annual Fall Shabbaton—and the first virtual Shabbaton of its kind! As the stars come out on Saturday, Nov. 7, we will gather in joyful community to welcome in the new week with Havdalah and a concert with Deborah Sacks Mintz of the Rising Song Institute. Over the course of the Shabbaton, Deborah will lead us in song and study, with a focus on Music as a source of comfort and strength.

The Shabbaton continues on Sunday, Nov. 8, with a rich set of sessions where we'll explore topics of racial justice and diversity in the American Jewish community, prepare food from global Jewish traditions, bring our young people together for Jewish songs and games, imagine with our rabbinical fellows what a post-pandemic Jewish community can look like, and more—all on Zoom! Questions? [Please email Liz Soloway Snider at essnider@colby.edu](mailto:essnider@colby.edu).

Schedule

Saturday, Nov. 7

7 p.m. Community Havdalah and Concert with Deborah Sacks Mintz

Sunday, Nov. 8

10 a.m. Inside and Out: Racial Equity in Today's Jewish Community with Yoshi Silverstein

11:30 a.m. All Wrapped Up Together • Global Jewish Cooking with Daniel Heinrich

1 p.m. Imagining Post-Pandemic Jewish Life: A Discussion with the Center's Rabbinical Fellows

1 p.m. Kids' Fun and Learning with Mel Weiss and Student Leadership Fellows

2 p.m. Music as a Source of Comfort and Strength, with Deborah Sacks Mintz

Session Descriptions



Inside and Out: Racial Equity in Today's Jewish Community with Yoshi Silverstein

Among the many challenges of the past year, 2020 has cracked open even wider the national conversation on racial equity in our country. Many in the Jewish community are asking questions about how we push forward racial equity work as Jewish individuals and communities, both in our external relationships to other communities, and in our internal discourse and learning around the racial make-up of our own community. In this session, we'll learn about Jews of Color and what our

American Jewish community really looks like today from the lenses of both statistics and personal story. We'll discuss what it means to be "anti-racist" in our Jewish work, lives, and community-building.



All Wrapped Up Together with Daniel Heinrich

Global Jewry is connected in a thousand different ways: through shared culture, tradition, language, religion, and more. But few ties bind us closer together than our shared penchant for eating stuffed vegetables. *Halushkes*, *Seboya Reynadas*, *Dolmas*, *Mechshie*, *Memualim*; cabbage, onions, grape leaves, peppers, artichokes—you name it, we've stuffed it full of rice or meat. While stuffing vegetables may seem difficult, you'll find that with a little bit of guidance it's much easier than you think. In our session, we'll explore

three options for vegetarian rice-stuffed veggies for you to follow along with at home: Onion

(Sephardic *Seboya Reynadas*), Cabbage (Ashkenazi *Halushkes*), and Grape Leaf (Kurdish-style *Dolmas*). You're invited to try just one or make all three with us. Please note that we will send out an ingredients list the week before the Shabbaton in case you're interested in cooking together!



Imagining Post-Pandemic Jewish Life: A Discussion with the Center's Rabbinical Fellows

It's hard these days to imagine the future, but even so it's wonderful to dream, and we can't wait until the pandemic is over to start planning for what comes next, like it or not. Rabbinical students Sara Blumenthal, Madeline Cooper, and Frankie Sandmel will discuss the questions and the opportunities they see as they prepare for leadership roles in the Jewish community. We look forward to your thoughts about post-pandemic Jewish life as well.



Kids' Fun and Learning with Mel Weiss and Student Leadership Fellows

Join Mel Weiss and fellows from the Center for Small Town Jewish Life to enjoy some songs, some games, and some books on Sunday afternoon! This kids' programming is available to any family registered for the Shabbaton. Open to all; recommended for kids 4 - 10. You'll receive a Zoom link just for kids' programming with the general Shabbaton information.



Music as a Source of Comfort and Strength, with Deborah Sacks Mintz

How has music been an expression of both power and privilege, joy and suffering, throughout the Jewish people's narrative? Where do we see our own experiences embedded within these stories? In this text-based class, we'll explore classical texts, punctuating our learning with mindful song.

[Read More About Our Presenters](#)

More from the Center

Is Liberal Democracy a Jewish Value?

DR. ELIAS SACKS
RABBI RACHEL ISAACS



Wednesday, October 28, 7 p.m.

In nations throughout the globe, and increasingly Europe and the Americas, societies are electing leaders and empowering parties that are publicly questioning and challenging the wisdom of liberal, democratic forms of government. We have witnessed animosity toward political values that appeared beyond debate in the post-World World II order: the value of separation between religion and state, international cooperation and alliances, and the separation of powers. The struggle between those who embrace liberal Democracy as an inherent good and those who are skeptical of its value exists not only on a global scale but is causing major division in global Jewish communities as well.

In this conversation, Dr. Elias Sacks, Director of the Program in Jewish Studies at the University of Colorado, Boulder, and Rabbi Rachel Isaacs, Assistant Professor of Jewish Studies at Colby College, will examine these global trends through the lens of Jewish history and thought, examining past and present intra-Jewish debates about the best and "most Jewish" forms of political organization, and how global trends could impact the Jewish future in the United States and abroad.

[Register Here](#)

[The Center for Small Town Jewish Life](#)



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