



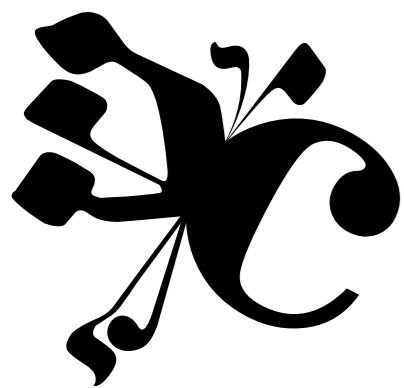
Stockholm & Uppsala August 2-16

2011 Summer
of Change

Catalogue



2011 Project-
Incubator + **2011** JPropel



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Shalom and welcome to the Summer of Change,

Over the coming days, you will meet other Jewish leaders and innovators from across Europe. Each program participant is uniquely talented, with limitless potential to transform communities and inspire the Jewish world and beyond. I encourage you to take risks and form deep connections, to strengthen our respective and collective ability to be agents of substantive change and lasting impact. We believe in what you have to contribute and I look forward to seeing what emerges from the seeds you plant in Sweden this August.

Lynn Schusterman

Chair, The Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation

Dear Participant,

Pears Foundation is proud to join our global partners in supporting this Summer of Change programme. This project expresses our commitment to promoting social action and innovation as a key way that Jews can make a contribution to society at large. We hope you will make the most of this opportunity to explore, learn, network, and challenge yourself. We look forward to learning with you and from you as you translate this experience back to your home community and make your vision of a better world into a reality.

Trevor Pears

Executive Chairman, Pears Foundation



Dear Participant,

The Summer of Change program in which you are about to take part is formulated to celebrate and enhance Jewish innovation and social entrepreneurship throughout Europe. It represents an exemplary model of partnership and collaboration between three organizations that see in you the future of Jewish life – Jewish life that is vibrant, innovative, responsible, and dedicated to the future of your communities and your societies. Congratulations on your being chosen as one of the agents of change who will participate in this unique enterprise.

Gabriel Urwitz

Chairman, Paideia - The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden

Välkommen! Welcome to Sweden!

Thank you for taking part in the 2011 Summer Of Change where we hope to harness and elevate our collective impact in creating new and innovative pathways to Jewish life in Europe.

The work that each of you is doing in the world demonstrates something vital for Europe's future: How, through creative means, one can simultaneously deepen one's own identity while contributing to, and strengthening, the societies of which they are a part. This duality between the individual and the collective is a key reason for this gathering. We recognize that when you each, as individuals, go about your important work alone, it might be difficult to see how monumental your contribution is. However, by being together, we become more aware that each person is significantly impacting Jewish culture and life throughout Europe.

At the heart of what you are doing is something profoundly Jewish: the refusal to simply accept the world the way it is. Your creative spirit, your initiatives and your imaginations are a demonstration that such spirit is still alive.

Today's world is changing at unprecedented speed. And so too is the nature of leadership. Technology and the evolving nature of the meaning of community present tremendous opportunities to collectively leverage the Jewish contribution to society. By developing and sharing our creativity, our skills, and our networks, we can support each other to change the world. While no one initiative will address all of the challenges at hand, together we can shift the centre of gravity in the Jewish world, and promote a vision of Jewish life in Europe that is vibrant, inclusive and creative while also being grounded in Jewish texts, values and wisdom.

While our time together is limited, this new community you are now a member of, serves as model for what the European Jewish community as a whole is capable of becoming. Just as Shabbat is said to be "a taste of the world to come," our Summer of Change community should be a window to the Jewish world of the future. May this experience give each of us the vision, skills, and networks that we need to play our part in making that vision a reality.

With warm wishes for a productive and enriching summer,

Shoshana Boyd Gelfand

Director, JHub: Jewish Social Action and Innovation

Barbara Lerner Spectre

Founding Director, Paideia: The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden

Justin Korda

Executive Director, ROI Community



JHHub

JHHub: Social Action and Innovation serves as a London-based centre of creativity, energy, learning and innovation. JHHub provides office space, meeting rooms and a support network for innovative UK-based Jewish individuals, projects and organisations who are working to contribute meaningfully, in a variety of ways, to the Jewish and wider world. JHHub is a programme of the Pears Foundation, a British family foundation rooted in Jewish values and committed to developing positive identity and citizenship.

For more information visit:

www.jhhub.org.uk



Paideia

Paideia was created in 2000 through grants from the Swedish government and the Marianne and Marcus Wallenberg Foundation as a non-denominational academic and applied institute of excellence, with the mandate of working for the rebuilding of Jewish life and culture in Europe. After ten years of activity, Paideia has graduated over 200 fellows from its One-Year Jewish Studies Program and more than 100 social entrepreneurs from the Paideia Project-Incubator, who are changing the face of European Jewish life.

For more information visit:

www.paideia-eu.org



ROI Community

ROI Community is a global community of Jewish innovators created by Lynn Schusterman. ROI Community connects dynamic and creative young Jews with each other, enabling them to translate their ideas into innovative work that will transform the future of Jewish life around the world. To date, ROI Community has over 600 members from almost 40 countries. ROI Community nurtures member initiatives and provides professional development and networking opportunities, as well as support through ROI Seed Grants and Micro Grants. Members are shaping the Jewish future as they move forward on their journey as leaders, activists and change agents.

For more information visit:

www.roicommunity.com

The Summer of Change celebrates the new initiatives emerging in countries throughout Europe that are transforming and renewing Jewish life across the continent. Social entrepreneurs are introducing new ways of expressing Judaism that are inclusive, open and accessible, within education, the arts, culture, social justice, environment and community development. Consisting of three programs, Project-Incubator, JPropel and the Paideia Decennial Conference, the Summer of Change brings together committed leaders and innovators of the Jewish world to explore, learn, dream and work together, in order to grow and strengthen ways of expressing Judaism – culturally and spiritually. The two programs described on this page are co-organized and co-sponsored by Paideia, ROI Community and JHHub.



The Project-Incubator gathers innovative minds within the educational, cultural, communal and institutional fields to empower them in their process of creative development. The program consists of workshops, skills seminars, Jewish content and inspiration, individual tutoring, peer review and interaction with funding professionals. Participants represent a range of projects, from those led within established institutions to new grass-roots initiatives. The Project-Incubator has been running since 2006, tutoring in total over 100 projects across Europe. This program utilizes expertise from a number of partnering organizations – communal and umbrella organizations for recruitment, and professional organizations and foundations for project tutoring and workshop sessions.



JPropel moves young leaders and activists for Jewish culture and community life full-steam ahead. For an inspiring, professional and outcome-focused 96 hours, JPropel pools the talents of social entrepreneurs to create a unique networking and skill-building opportunity. This seminar is fittingly named JPropel as three organizations, Paideia, ROI Community and JHHub, unite to create a catalyst for change that will “propel” the participants forward in their endeavors. JPropel provides participants with a fresh avenue for brainstorming, learning useful tools and establishing critical connections to effectively address current challenges in all fields of Jewish life and culture. The JHHub-Paideia-ROI Pan European Lab is dedicated to fostering a new generation of strong leadership for the Jewish and wider world.



**Dear Participant,
Welcome to the 2011 Summer of Change!**

The extraordinary group gathering in Stockholm and Uppsala this year for the Project-Incubator and JPropel is comprised of remarkable individuals from communities across Europe. You form an integral group that is successfully animating and enhancing Jewish life today.

The goal of the Summer of Change is to support your activism by offering advanced workshops, networking between participants, and the opportunity to brainstorm and receive feedback on your projects from your peers and the outstanding mentors and support staff.

It is our hope that at the end of these programs, you will return to your dedicated work with a replenished and enriched practical tool kit, refreshed and inspired to continue your vital contributions to developing contemporary Jewish European culture.

We are excited to have you with us!

Beto Maya, Erik Gribbe and Nir Ortal
Program Coordinators, 2011 Summer of Change



■ Represented □ Not Represented

Adriana Elena Dumitrescu is an educator with extensive experience in teaching Jewish history and the Holocaust to high school students. This experience has led Adriana to create and organize extracurricular activities for students to teach them more about Jewish history and Jewish life through tours, visits to Jewish cultural sites in Braila and Bucharest, and participation in organized Jewish events.

In 2008, Adriana wrote a book about anti-Semitic propaganda in Romania (1866 - 1940) and in 2010 she published a study in the Annals of the Association of Young Historians of Moldova titled, "Teaching the Holocaust through extracurricular activities in secondary schools."

She was a member in both 2008 and 2010 of the organizing committee for "Holocaust Memory Day," a national competition where high school students submit artwork that speaks out against intolerance, Nazism and anti-Semitism as a way to commemorate the Holocaust.

Adriana coordinated the production of the high school magazine, Menorah, from 2004 to 2009. In 2010, she participated in the Paideia Project-Incubator.



Occupation: Head Teacher
Currently resides in: Romania



She was a member in both 2008 and 2010 of the organizing committee for "Holocaust Memory Day," a national competition where high school students submit artwork that speaks out against intolerance, Nazism and anti-Semitism as a way to commemorate the Holocaust.

Adriana coordinated the production of the high school magazine, Menorah, from 2004 to 2009. In 2010, she participated in the Paideia Project-Incubator.



Occupation: Project Coordinator, JMPoint Benefit Foundation
Currently resides in: Hungary
Website: www.zoldizrael.hu and www.jmpoint.hu



Adrienn Kürti has always loved music and had the privilege of singing in some of the most famous choirs in Hungary, but when it came time to go to university, she decided to pursue science. Adrienn received her diploma in chemistry and environmental studies and continued her studies in the fields of biology and ecology. Over the past 20 years she has been actively involved with several Jewish organizations on a volunteer basis. She has organized conferences, camps and nationwide events. Adrienn was a counselor with a

Jewish camp in Szarvas, was the editor of a Jewish students' newspaper and sang in a Jewish choir. She studied Hebrew at the Kolel in Budapest and then again in New York. She prepared several educational materials for JMPoint Academy, has her own column in the newspaper Lativ Kolel on gastronomy and lifestyles, and gives lectures with Lativ Kolel and Tikva Hungary in Hungarian and English on topics of Eco-Kosher and sustainability. Throughout it all, Adrienn combines secular knowledge with Jewish wisdom.



Agata Kaplon, born in Wroclaw in 1979, received her Master's degree in Sociology from the University of Wroclaw in 2004 while studying for an M.A. in Philosophy at the University of Wroclaw and Salzburg. In 2009, Agata received a Ph.D. scholarship from the Institut der Philosophie in Hannover and she was a Walter Benjamin fellow at Paideia in Stockholm. She currently works for the Central Council of the Jews in Germany on the Ecology and Judaism Project.

Name of project: Jews Go Green

Fields in which the project is to be realized:
Education, Community Work, Intercultural Work

Project status: In Process of Realization

Occupation: Officer, Central Council of Jews in Germany
Currently resides in: Germany
Website: www.zentralratjuden.de



About the project: Jews Go Green aims to fill an educational gap that currently exists in the Jewish Community in Germany, which is made up of a large Russian speaking population. Through an educational webpage and seminars, the project will examine environmentalism, nature, consumption and sustainability through the lens of Judaism.

In this way, young German Jews, teachers and rabbis will be able to study Jewish texts on environmentalism, gain environmental awareness and practical tips on recycling and living a more "green" lifestyle and learn about Jewish holidays while helping the environment and the world at large.

The project aims to reach young adults and youth; to refresh well-known themes in Jewish narratives; to strengthen the Jewish voice on green issues; and to animate and implement the ideal of Tikkun Olam in Jewish life in German-speaking countries.



Occupation: Lecturer, Yerevan State University
Currently resides in: Armenia



Alvina Hovhannisyan is a lecturer at Yerevan State University in Armenia whose area includes Hebrew and Arabic languages and language in the Middle Ages. She holds B.A. and M.A. degrees in Arabic Studies.

In 2009, Alvina completed the One Year program at Paideia: The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden. She has also participated in many academic programs, conferences and research projects in Russia, Egypt, Israel, Germany, Sweden, and more.

Her specific areas of interest include intercultural relations between Jews and Arabs in the Middle Ages, Jewish studies and comparative linguistics, and she has published articles on these subjects. Alvina is actively involved in projects developing Jewish Studies and Jewish culture in Armenia.

Ani Gharabaghstyan graduated from Yerevan State University, where she specialized in Semitic languages. She also studied at the Caucasus Institute in the department of Journalism. Currently, she is a doctoral student at the Caucasus Institute in the Genocide Museum-institute. Ani is also a freelance journalist for Armenia's SLIDE magazine. She has extensive experience organizing events and festivals, including for the local ReAnimania Animation Film Festival. Her family owns a bookstore and salon, both good venues for cultural events. She also participates the Jewish community events and holidays celebrations.

Name of project: Step by Step through Jewish Studies

Fields in which the project is to be realized:

Education, Cultural Production, The Arts, Community Work, Intercultural Work

Project status: Idea Stage

About the project: Step by Step through Jewish Studies aims to give students in the Semiology Studies Department at Yerevan State University and young Armenian Jews greater understanding and insight into the world of Judaism and its cultural heritage. The formal educational component of the program will include workshops, seminars, guest lectures and discussions and will cover everything from Jewish cultural heritage and Jewish history to the Hebrew language. More informal events will include smaller gatherings, salons, literary events and parties.

Occupation: Doctoral Student
Currently resides in: Armenia



Occupation:

Curator and Educator; Co-Founder, Film IsReal; Co-Founder, Jewish Salon Amsterdam

Currently resides in: The Netherlands

Anja Waleson currently breathes and bikes in Amsterdam where she has studied media and culture with a specialization in Israeli cinema at the University of Amsterdam. She teaches a variety of cultural educational programs on national and international levels. As part of her ongoing "Wandering Jew" shtick, Anja has lived in Southeast Asia where she taught art and English and worked as a photographer. Anja has served as a volunteer both within and outside the Jewish community.

Anja is the co-founder of Film IsReal, the first annual Israeli film festival in the Netherlands, which showcases the quality and diversity of recent Israeli cinema. She is also the co-founder of the Jewish Salon Amsterdam, which aims to create an alternative, non-institutional, innovative and interactive venue for young people (both Jewish and non-Jewish, affiliated and non-affiliated) to experience and express their connection to Jewish culture in dynamic and meaningful ways.





Occupation: English teacher, Perfect English School
Currently resides in: Ukraine



Anna Litovskaya graduated from the Linguistic University in Nizhny Novgorod in 2009 and completed a one-year program at Paideia in 2010.

Since the age of 17, Anna has been involved in different Jewish activities in Russia and Israel including Taglit, Alternative Break, Limmud, Jewish youth camps, leadership trainings and more. Beyond this, Anna participated in two volunteer camps abroad and led one in Russia last year.

Anna currently lives in Ukraine and works as an English teacher for the Perfect English School. In her free time she is helping develop and implement the Shituf Peula project, which she and Olga Savchuk launched while studying at Paideia.

Name of project: Shituf Peula - Camps for Volunteerism

Fields in which the project is to be realized:
 Volunteerism

Project status: Pilot Stage

About the project: Shituf Peula - Camps for Volunteerism gives young people in the Ukraine (aged 16 to 26) the chance to help develop and strengthen local communities and to engage in Jewish learning.

The volunteer work will be diverse, ranging from creating playgrounds for children to gathering materials for exhibitions. Program participants will receive training and they will attend informative sessions on European Jewish culture, including workshops on literary and artistic masterpieces and classes on the history of local Jewry and Rabbinic tradition in the Ukraine. This program is acutely needed in the Ukraine, particularly because of the financial difficulties which face many locals. Through this Shituf Peula, communities will gain access to various services for free while the participants will gain new knowledge and skills, useful for their professional development.



Occupation: Community Development Director, Kiev Jewish Community
Currently resides in: Ukraine
Website: www.sinagoga.kiev.ua



Anna Yablonskaya was born in Kharkov, Ukraine, in 1986 to a family of scientists and doctors. She studied at a physics and mathematics lyceum and then at Kharkov Polytechnic University where she focused on systems analysis management. She has worked at some major consulting firms, in commercial property management and in hospitality. At the age of 13, Anna found out that she was Jewish and with it the realization that people can be divided into nationalities. Since she grew up in such a scientific family, this revelation was not life changing.

But last year, Anna suddenly realized that she wants to apply her knowledge, experience and ideas to create incredible and innovative programs for other Jews who, like the former Anna, still believe nothing. She hopes that their progress will take less than the 11 years it took her.

Anna's project, Breathing One Air, aims to increase the level of Jewish education in small communities throughout the Ukraine, to increase the level of Jewish awareness within the Jewish people both in Israel and the diaspora and to encourage similar start-up groups within the community. The project specifically targets small Jewish communities throughout the Ukraine that have no synagogue, rabbi, Jewish school or community center. The year-long course, which is offered through different tracks for all ages, from youth through seniors, provides an interactive educational system to increase a level of knowledge about Jewish history and cultural heritage, traditions and practice. The final leg of this project is a trip to Israel.



Occupation: IT Specialist
Currently resides in: Germany
Website: www.beit-shira.org



Chana Karmann-Lente Chana Karmann-Lente holds an M.A. in Jewish Studies from the Hochschule fuer Juedische Studien Heidelberg and the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Being an alumna of the Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, she is currently enrolled at the European Academy for Jewish Liturgy and is an active member of the international Women Cantor's Network. Chana lives in Northern Germany, where she founded the Masorti Congregation of Hamburg, Kehilat Beit Shira. The congregation benefits from her ongoing work as its volunteer leader and teacher. In 2010, Chana successfully organized Hamburg's Jewish learning event at the first Global Day of Jewish Learning in honor of Rabbi Adin Steinsaltz and his work.

Name of project: Machon Aviv – Jüdisches Lernen

Fields in which the project is to be realized:

Education, Community Work, Jewish Learning

Project status: In Process of Realization

About the project: Machon Aviv – Jüdisches Lernen aims to strengthen Jewish knowledge and familiarity and to create networking opportunities for Jewish learners across all levels. The initial idea was conceived in 2010 when Chana's congregation participated in the first Global Day of Jewish Learning. An egalitarian project Machon Aviv is inspired by the classical Beit Midrash experience, such as the as Conservative Yeshiva in Jerusalem, Midreshet Yerushalayim, the Florence Melton Adult Mini-School and Limmud.

Machon Aviv will consist of two tracks: an open Beit Midrash and a structured educational/cultural course of programs that offers seminars, workshops, lectures and more.

While the Beit Midrash will hopefully soon have a permanent home, the second track will also "travel" and offer programs at various venues throughout Northern Germany.

The project hopes to appeal to unaffiliated Jews who do not wish to identify with the Orthodox or the liberal movements, but who nonetheless are searching for an egalitarian, yet traditional, alternative.



Occupation: Project Coordinator, Limmud International
Currently resides in: United Kingdom
Websites: www.limmudinternational.org and www.limmud.org



Dani Serlin is the London-based Limmud International Project Coordinator. Her professional background is in social research and project management, including development of client relationships, leading focus groups/workshops and involvement in creating a London/Cape Town Anti-Racism and Human Rights Community Youth Action pilot program. First active as a volunteer peer and senior youth leader for the UK Jewish community, Dani attended the Machon leadership development program in Israel and later became involved as a volunteer for Limmud, coordinating a healing tent at Limmud Fest.

Combining personal interest and professional skill, Dani now supports 50 Limmud groups around the world, including a dozen in Europe, in creating cross-communal Jewish learning and experiential events based on principles of volunteerism and mutual respect. As the gateway to a global network, she works on improving communication between different Limmud groups and the exchange of information and ideas to address common challenges and identify common opportunities.



Occupation: Student
Currently resides in: Turkey



Diana Gün Sadacca a student at Marmara University in Turkey where she is studying economics. She has worked in the finance department of Kent Shipping and has interned in private banking.

For the past year, Diana has also been a member of the Turkish Hadracha College where her group has been generating several projects. She also is an active participant in many Jewish organizations and she frequently travels to events in different countries throughout Europe.

Name of project: Sepharadic Revival Project: Toledo-Amsterdam-Paris-Thessaloniki-London-Istanbul-Safed, Holy Land

Fields in which the project is to be realized:
Education, Cultural Production, Community Work

Project status: Idea Stage

About the project: The Sepharadic Revival Project aims to attract Turkish Jewish youth and unite them with other European Sephardic communities' youth, through three years of educational and cultural tour programs. This project creates a unique opportunity to raise awareness among Sephardi youth about their culture and traditions and to give Jewish youth from different countries the chance to meet and network. The specific goals of the project are to offer Jewish youth from Turkey and from other European Sepharadi communities a variety of educational and cultural tours, giving them insight into their roots. The tours will include interactive seminars, concerts, and live theater. Volunteers will lead the tours around their own community and guest lecturers will participate. The tour will begin in Spain and will end in Safed, Israel.



Occupation:
Graphic Designer & Marketing, Interim Marketing Manager for the JCC London
Currently resides in: United Kingdom



Elliot Cowan graduated from university in the UK with a Master's in industrial design in 2004 and has worked for companies designing lighting, products and packaging; on music videos as an art director and as a freelance graphic designer. He has worked in the Jewish nonprofit world since 2006 for Hillel in New York, London and New Orleans, as well as in a variety of other positions, including as an engagement professional, an assistant director and as head of marketing and design. In every place Elliot has worked he has used his experience as a designer to develop the branding, marketing and design of each organization from the inside out. He recently returned to London from New Orleans and is currently working as a freelance graphic designer and marketing professional specifically in the Jewish charity sector, for organizations in Africa, Canada, USA and the UK.

Elliot's project, Brand Nu Design, aims to help Jewish organizations around the globe with their design and marketing materials and to offer them a network and community for creative professionals working in the Jewish world to develop and to educate Jewish organizations. Specifically, the idea is to create a platform to help large and small Jewish nonprofit organizations across the globe to create customised designs for all their events, programs and fundraising needs with eye catching and professional design material for a fraction of the price. Other options will offer consolidation of design materials, development/fundraising packs and possibly website design to allow all this to be customized and quick to manufacture. This will offer a forum for encouraging young Jewish designers to show their work, get paid for it and help the broader community.

Elliot is also hoping to start a creative professionals network/forum where Jewish creatives will have a place to meet, develop and discuss their needs and receive support.

Erin Kopelow Erin Kopelow graduated from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, with a degree in political science. She then moved to Toronto, Canada, where she worked in creative development for an innovative, niche television production company. Erin came to Israel for the first time in the fall of 2005 on a one-year volunteer MASA program and was chosen to work with the MASA company in marketing, PR, and communications. Impassioned by the culture of Israel, Erin made aliyah in 2007. Erin began working for The Sofaer International MBA Program in 2008 and currently lives in Tel Aviv.



Occupation:
Admission Director & Marketing Coordinator, Sofaer International MBA, Tel Aviv University
Currently resides in: Israel
Website: www.imba.tau.ac.il



Occupation:
Project Manager, The Moscow Jewish Center of Career Development for Young Specialists
Currently resides in: Russia
Website: www.jewcenter.ru



Evgeniy Khlynov was born in Ekb, Russia. He graduated from the Jewish school, Or-Avner and from the Jewish university, Institute of the XXI Century, in Moscow in 2008 specializing in project management. While he was studying in university, he went to the USA on the program for students, "Work and Travel," and spent almost a year there. It gave him positive work experience and improved his communication skills. During his studies at the Institute of the XXI Century, Evgeniy started to work for a consulting company. He worked as a sales manager for business training and consulting services. Evgeniy also worked at the BTL Agency as a supervisor. Since 2009, Evgeniy has worked for the Philips company as a manager. In 2010, he successfully passed the Leadership Training Course "Knafaim" in social projects management. As a result, Evgeniy created a project, "The Moscow Jewish Center of Career Development for Young Specialists," which he now develops full-time.

The Moscow Jewish Center of Career Development for Young Specialists is now in its start-up stage. This project focuses on the professional development of young specialists to help them choose an area of study, a career and beyond. They start working with high school children. The mission of the project is to create a professional community based on the Jewish values.



Occupation: Professor, Director, Producer, Artist
Currently resides in: France
Website: www.ces.fas.harvard.edu/people/p138.html and www.budzyntheplay.com



Guila Kessous, recipient of the State Diploma of Performing Arts award, has acted, directed and produced in major theaters in the USA and Europe. She feels that drama is a socially conscious reflection of many aspects of society and culture. Her approach to theater as a cultural marker is multifaceted. She received a Ph.D. in ethics and aesthetics under the mentorship of Elie Wiesel, an M.B.A. in cultural business and a cross-disciplinary M.A. in comparative dramaturgy, cinema and pedagogy. She has taught at Harvard, Boston University, the Sorbonne and the Wiesel Institute. Her sponsors include UNESCO (Director, "Hilda"), the UN (Director, "Tribute to Human Rights") and the CNRS. She has collaborated with artists including John Malkovich, James Taylor, Marissa Berenson, Daniel Mesguich and Theodore Bikel.

Guila has produced and directed over 20 performances in the USA and Europe. She is an accomplished Gold Medal winner actress for Dramatic Arts, a professor with a degree from the French government and a researcher with a doctorate in ethics and aesthetics. In her work as an author and translator, Guila has collaborated with numerous artists and authors on theatrical works that primarily deal with humanitarian issues.



Occupation: Founder & General Secretary, Muslim Jewish Conference
Currently resides in: Austria
Website: www.mjconference.org



Ilja Sichrovsky is the Founder and Secretary General of the Muslim Jewish Conference (MJC). He is completing his Master's in international development from the University of Vienna.

Born in Berlin, he is the son of a German mother and an Austrian father. His father's family has Jewish roots in Vienna dating back centuries; in fact, one of his Jewish ancestors was knighted by Franz Josef. Ilja was a counselor in Vienna's Hashomer Hatzair youth movement and was a founding member of Geshet, the youth party within the Austrian Jewish Community. Ilja represented the University of Vienna three times at international Harvard student conferences. On each occasion, he won the Harvard Award for Exemplifying the True Spirit of Diplomacy. Later, he acted as faculty adviser and coach for the Viennese delegation at several conferences and he chaired the peace-building commission at EURASIAMUN.

Ilja wrote a scientific article about being a Jewish student studying at an Austrian University six decades after the Holocaust. It was published by the University of Vienna and integrated into curriculum.

In 2010, the first annual Muslim Jewish Conference (MJC) brought 65 individuals from 25 countries to Vienna. It proved that there is collective faith that peaceful coexistence is possible. The forum led to sustainable conclusions and recommendations published and promoted through a final paper. The second annual MJC, to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, is about establishing and institutionalizing student-driven dialogue that will bring people together and break down stereotypes and prejudices.



Julia Itin was born in 1985 in Odessa and grew up in Westphalia, Germany. She holds a double M.A. in Jewish studies and pedagogy from Heidelberg University and is a research fellow in the Oriental Department of the University Halle-Wittenberg where she is completing her Ph.D. on Jewish memory of the Black Death. She is also program director of Limmud Germany.

Occupation:
Research Fellow, Jewish Studies Halle-Wittenberg; Program Director, Limmud Germany
Currently resides in: Germany
Website: www.limmud.de



Occupation: Treasurer, Coordinator and Fundraiser
Currently resides in: Poland
Website: www.czulent.pl *and* www.seminarjew.blogspot.com *and* www.madrachim.pl



Klaudia Klimek is manager of the Madrichim Agency, which offers courses, workshops, tours, classes and much more in Krakow. She has participated in a number of different leadership courses in Poland and Israel, such as "MiNYanim" for leaders of countries from Central Europe organized by the UJA Federation and numerous courses arranged by the JDC. For several years, Klaudia has been a leader of youth activities in Krakow, as an educator in the Jewish Summer Camp and as a coordinator and seminar leader in the Krakow Jewish Sunday School. Among other things, she has worked as an account manager in an advertising agency and as coordinator, treasurer and fundraiser of the Jewish Movie Meetings in the Jewish Association "Czulent." She founded seminarjew.blogspot.com and was a semi-finalist in "Innovation and Business" at the Jagiellonian University School of Entrepreneurship.

Name of project: Polin TV

Fields in which the project is to be realized:

Education, Cultural Production, Community Work, Intercultural Work

Project status: Idea Stage

About the project: Polin TV will feature programs made by young adults, amateur reporters, local Polish leaders - and with time other Europeans - about Jewish culture, tradition, education and institutions in Poland. There will also be live programs from events and seminars so that people around the world will have an opportunity to take part despite geographical distances, including live interviews with well known people, Holocaust survivors and Jewish activists. Polin TV will be interactive, with viewers being able to: ask questions through chat during live shows, add movies from holiday celebrations, write opinions and articles on the blog, add photos and promote their local Jewish institutions and organizations. Polin TV will initially produce one hour of programming per day but eventually an experienced team will record and produce longer programs and screen Jewish movies.

Lievnath Faber was born in the Netherlands to an Israeli mother and a Dutch father. She is founder of both Filmisrael - Festival for New Israeli Cinema and Salon Amsterdam, which is part of the global Jewish Salons Network. Salon Amsterdam aims to create Jewish arts and culture platforms to give both affiliated and non affiliated young Jews a neutral meeting place that is not connected to existing Jewish institutions. Lievnath has a love for people and the arts, a passion for organizing events and a drive to facilitate a variety of expressions and celebrations of Jewish identity. She is currently finishing her M.A. in media studies at the University of Amsterdam and enjoys the wonders of being a mother to her beautiful 2-year-old daughter Shemesh, the sunshine of her life.



Occupation: Director, Salon Amsterdam; Artistic Director, Filmisrael - Festival for New Israeli Cinema
Currently resides in: The Netherlands
Website: www.jewishsalons.net *and* www.filmisreal.com



Occupation: Graphic Designer; President, Beit Kraków
Currently resides in: Poland
Website: www.bohomaz.eu *and* www.beitkrakow.pl



Magda Koralewska graduated from Jagiellonian University in Kraków with an M.A. degree in computer science, with a focus on artificial intelligence. From 2004 to 2008, Magda worked as an IT consultant for Johnson & Johnson. She later started work as graphic designer. Currently, Magda is working on a number of Jewish cultural projects: New Jewish Music Festival, Singer Festival, Slowo Zydowskie (Jewish Monthly), Jewish Theatre and the Shalom Foundation.

Since 2004, Magda has been involved in Jewish organizational life in Poland. In 2008 she was elected President of Beit Warszawa. From 2007-2009, she co-organized "The Jew Not Painted" exhibition of 19th century wood engravings of Jewish life in Poland, which toured all over Poland. Images from the collection were also published in three separate books. Since 2009, she has founded and acted as President of Beit Kraków Jewish Progressive Community. This year, Magda is involved in organizing the New Jewish Music Festival.

Magda has also participated in various seminars, including Beutel Leadership Seminar (2007), JHub and JCC - Capacity and Skills Building Seminar (2009) and the Nachum-Goldman Fellowship (2010).

Marcell Kenesei Marcell Kenesei attended high school at the Lauder Javne Jewish Community School in Hungary. He graduated from the ELTE University Faculty of Law in political science. During his university years he specialized in international political relations and the history of the Middle East in the twentieth century.

Since 2002 Marcell has been involved with the Haver Foundation as a volunteer, teacher and also as a general advisor. During the summers he was a counselor for children in the international Jewish youth camp in Szarvas. In 2006, after he has finished his university studies, he participated in a one-year scholarship program at Paideia Institute in Sweden.

Currently, Marcell is the resource development coordinator and the deputy director of the Israeli Cultural Institute in Budapest. In June, Marcell was the representative of Centropa in Hungary.



Occupation: Resource Development Coordinator and Deputy Director, Israeli Cultural Institute; Representative, Centropa in Hungary
Currently resides in: Hungary



Occupation: Community Affairs Coordinator, CEJI - A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe
Currently resides in: Belgium
Website: www.ceji.org



Melissa Sonnino was born in 1984 in Rome, Italy, and graduated in the area of international relations in 2008 from the LUISS Guido Carli University in Rome.

From 2009 to 2010, Melissa worked for the Italian Jewish Cultural Association Hans Jonas as coordinator of the "Master for Jewish Young Leaders" training course. She also coordinated the research project, "Italian young Jews: identity, continuity and ruptures," which examines Italian young Jews identity.

Since January 2011, Melissa has worked as a Community Affairs Coordinator at CEJI - A Jewish Contribution to an Inclusive Europe, a Brussels based NGO with 15 years of experience in diversity education and anti-discrimination advocacy. Her main duties include developing and implementing advocacy for diversity training and against all forms of discrimination, including anti-Semitism, to be implemented by European public policy.



Occupation: Entrepreneur
Currently resides in: France



Michael Amsellem grew up in Strasbourg. After a scientific A-level, he went to Paris to study management, finance and entrepreneurship. During that time he travelled around the world, observing different Jewish communities. His commitment to the Jewish people and Israel is evident in several different ways: he has worked to bring about cooperation between French and Israeli parliamentarians, has organized conferences on Jewish philosophy and has also organized conferences on business ventures between France and Israel. As he cares deeply about the Jewish-Israeli cause, he participated in the Bronfman-Brandeis Competition in Jewish Identity, which led him to learn about Jewish history, spirituality and psychology. Michael is also a member of Limmud, Kol Dor and ROI.

Name of project: Moishe House in Paris

Fields in which the project is to be realized:

Education, Cultural Production, The Arts, Community Work, Intercultural Work

Project status: Idea Stage

About the project: Moishe House is animated Jewish living by the young, for the young and with the young. The idea is to bring a special spirit (Michael calls it ROI spirit) to France that is global, engaged, innovative, post-denominational and meaningful to the young generation. The French community has a complex, multi-layered Jewish history and culture. It's a mix a between French, Polish and North-African Jews, in a context of laïcité (no spirituality expressed outside private spaces). The aim is to target members of the French Jewish community who are never, or only occasionally, connected to Jewish life, by bringing a new spirit to a more open, but still self-assured, Jewish identity.



Occupation: Publisher; Founder and Director, Gefiltefest

Currently resides in: United Kingdom

Michael Leventhal is the founder and director of the annual Gefiltefest: The London Jewish Food Festival. He is co-ordinating other projects including: the Rabbi Relay Race, an exhibition of Jewish cookbooks from 1846-2011, a charitable bencher that can be personalised for functions and a seasonal recipe book with recipes from the world's best-known Jewish cooks. His own knowledge of food and Judaism is very limited but he regards food as a springboard that can be used to excite, entertain and educate people about their own culture, heritage and ethics. He studied history and still has a day job as a military history publisher.

Name of project: Gefiltefest

Fields in which the project is to be realized:

Education, Cultural Production, The Arts, Community Work, Intercultural Work

Project status: Running and Moving Towards Expansion

About the project: There are several projects currently underway. The Rabbi Relay Race will take place across the country: 15 Rabbis will cycle the length of Britain, in a bid to raise £100,000 for food-related charities. The Gefiltefest festival will be repeated in March or April 2012 in London but the goal is to also create a regional festival in Manchester or Edinburgh. This festival will offer a full day of lectures on food and the environment, as well as demonstrations, all in one venue, with the intention of fundraising and educating. An exhibition of Jewish cookbooks is under discussion. It would feature copies of Lady Montefiore's 1846 cookbook through modern day recipes, illustrating social history through the prism of food. Michael is also working on a bencher to be distributed worldwide and a cookbook of seasonal recipes. More than 20 well-known Jewish cooks have contributed 30 recipes.



Misha Beshkin was born in Daugavpils, Latvia, in 1977. He studied at Daugavpils University, specializing in teaching English and the history of world culture. During this period he worked for several organizations, including the Jewish Agency for Israel where he headed youth related projects in Baltic states and where he led the Joint Youth club in Riga. Misha participated in and conducted several projects supported by the European Youth Council.

In 2001, Misha started his own IT business in Daugavpils. In 2004, he moved to Tallinn, Estonia, and started working for Altiris Estonia (acquired later by Symantec Inc.) as a software quality engineer. An Orthodox Jew, he is an active member of the Jewish religious community of Estonia. He is a regular lecturer and has written several articles on the topic "WEB 2.0 and modern culture."



Occupation: SQA Engineer, Symantec Estonia
Currently resides in: Estonia
Websites: www.misha.beshkin.lv and www.kosherdev.com



Occupation: Director, LooktoLearn
Currently resides in: United Kingdom
Website: www.looktolearn.co.uk



Nic Abery is the creator and director of LooktoLearn, a museum educational experience that fuses Jewish and secular studies. With over 11 years of experience in school and museum education, Nic has written integrated curricula for Tzedek, United Synagogue and has trained teachers in the UK and abroad in her methodology. For the past two years, she has been developing and her new business, LooktoLearn.

Nic's extensive Jewish communal involvement includes frequently leading and attending lectures, tours and courses run by the London School of Jewish Studies and JCC, chairing a number of Jewish charity projects, and founding a new innovative minyan (prayer group) in London. Most recently, she sits on the steering committee for the 2011 Global Fellowship Programme by Presentense, Israel. Additionally, she has presented, volunteered and participated at Limmud

Conference and Limmud Fest over the last fourteen years, and often leads the very popular children's service at Finchley Synagogue.

LooktoLearn is an innovative project that uses innovative museum/gallery education techniques to fuse Jewish and secular education for children and families. It enhances the study of Jewish texts with museum art and artifacts by empowering learners to unlock their artistic and critical eye. By combining analytic textual study in the classroom with visual learning in museums and galleries Nic creates unique, broad and original multi-sensory learning experiences that if developed and widely implemented could enrich and revolutionize the entire Jewish School curriculum.

Nirit Bialer was born in Israel in 1978. She attended the American International School in Lagos Nigeria during grade school and went to high school in Israel. She received top marks on her final exams, specializing in French and biology. After serving in the IDF, she traveled for a year in South America and then studied at Hebrew University in Jerusalem where she majored in international relations and Middle Eastern studies. Nirit received an M.A. in security studies from Tel Aviv University. Since 2006, she has worked at the Israeli embassy in Berlin. Even before she began working in Germany, she participated in four youth groups that visited Germany and since 2001, she has prepared Israeli youth visiting Germany. Active in Israeli cultural events, she organizes a monthly Israeli gathering in Berlin and has moderated the German Israeli radio show for Kol Berlin.

Nirit's project is called, Habait- German Israeli Culture House in Berlin, which will expose Germans and others to Israeli culture and give Israeli artists in Germany a platform to showcase their work. Once it is opened, Habait will also feature Israeli culture in forms of events (theater, lectures, discussions, dance, music, book readings etc), have a library of books in Hebrew and books translated from Hebrew to German and a schedule of lessons and activities for children and adults connected to Israel.



Occupation: Initiator of the Israeli Culture House in Berlin
Currently resides in: Germany



Occupation: Theater Director and Actress, Salomee Speelt Theater Company
Currently resides in: Belgium
Website: www.salomeespeelt.be

Noemi Schlosser is an actress, playwright and theater director. She graduated in 2001 from the Antwerp Theater School and in 2004 started her theater company, Salomee Speelt. She has been sponsored by the Flemish Government for several of her creations, including *Moscow-NY*, a play about Jewish emigration in the 30s (performed at the JCC of New York City in 2010). In 2009, Noemi curated the Year of Jewish Culture in Antwerp. Noemi is fluent in French, German, Flemish and English.

Name of project: Cities of Light: Europe

Fields in which the project is to be realized:
Education, Cultural Production, the Arts

Project status: Running & Moving Towards Expansion

About the project: "Cities of Light" is a musical that celebrates the remarkable contribution of Jewish cabaret artists in Berlin, Paris, Warsaw, and Tel Aviv in the 1930's. In its touring presentation, "Cities" could be presented in a wide range of venues, from simple synagogue social halls to theater venues and cabarets. Educational offerings accompanying the show could include: master classes on Yiddish song, workshops on Tel Aviv's culture and history, contemporary Jewish cabaret and Jewish wit as an insider and outsider's art.



Ohad Sternberg grew up in Israel and was raised with Jewish values in his hometown of Ra'anana. During his three years of service in the IDF, he supervised the Operations Room of the Civil Administration in the West Bank, serving the local population of more than 2 million people. Ohad then attended Baruch College in NYC where he worked at 'WebCollage' and volunteered at VOA (Volunteers of America) and the American Red Cross. After receiving a B.A. in economics, Ohad was nominated and chosen to serve in the U.S. Peace Corps, a national program that promotes world peace and friendship through volunteerism. Sent to the Republic of Moldova in mid-2010, he has since studied Romanian and Russian while integrating into the Jewish community where he serves as a volunteer in the Jewish Center, ultimately serving more than 17,500 people.

Name of project:

Middle Age Group - Community Integration Project

Fields in which the project is to be realized:

Education, Cultural Production, the Arts, Community Work and Intercultural Work

Project status: Idea Stage

About the project: KEDEM serves the Jewish community in Moldova (estimated population 17,500) through a variety of organizations in the building. These organizations serve different age groups ranging from 3 to over 70. However, at present, Jewish people in their late 20s to their early 50s are not being effectively targeted or served by these organizations. The aim of this project is to fill a void and create a program that will be attractive, fun, interesting, educational and culturally inviting for this the age group that currently lacks involvement.

Occupation: Peace Corps Volunteer, KEDEM JCC (Chisinau, Moldova)

Currently resides in: Moldova

Website: www.peacecorps.gov/index.cfm?shell=learn.wherepc.easteurope.moldova



Occupation: Student

Currently resides in: Ukraine

Olga Savchuk Olga Savchuk studies ecological studies at the Kiev-Mohyla Academy. She also works as an archivist for the Judaica Centre in Kiev and as a genealogical researcher for various institutions. For the past five years, Olga has worked as an educator at Jewish and inter-ethnic children camps. She volunteers at the EcoClub 'Green Wave,' Hillel, Moishe House, Lo Tishkah and at various cultural initiatives. Olga has also been active in Marom. In 2009-2010, Olga studied at the Paideia One-Year Jewish Studies Program, during which time the Jewish Volunteer Project 'Shituf Peula' was created. She has also attended courses, seminars, conferences and workshops at the Israeli Cultural Centre (Kiev), VAAD, 'Kinor,' and more.

Name of project: Green Pages of Torah

Fields in which the project is to be realized: Education

Project status: Idea Stage

About the project: The project consists of 14 study sessions offered to 25 participants to explore the connection between humans and nature through the lens of Jewish thought. Participants will examine classical Jewish texts on environmental ideas and compare them to modern ones using the hevruta method. During the sessions, participants will learn about the history of ecological ideas, laws, current practices and approaches. Thus, will be exposed to the broader picture of the traditional and the modern, the Jewish and the non-Jewish, the theoretical and the practical. Celebration of Ecological Kabbalat Shabbat and Tu-bi-Shvat will also be part of the program.





Orly Schwartzman is a young Jewish idealist. She has long incorporated community work in her daily life. In her eyes, the concept of "Tikkun Olam" is a way of life. After serving the obligatory two years in the Israeli Air Force, Orly chose to continue her service as an officer for an additional two and a half years. Soon after completing her civil duties, Orly relocated to Adelaide, Australia where she was employed as a youth coordinator in the local Jewish community. Orly's year in Australia proved to be a life changing experience that has encouraged her to develop her own social initiative, aiming to empower cultural life in Jewish communities.

Name of project: Jewijitsu

Fields in which the project is to be realized:

Community Work

Project status: Idea Stage

Occupation: Project Assistant (Intern), IMZ - International Music and Media Centre
Currently resides in: Austria



About the project: Orly is creating a non-profit, interactive, Jewish human resource company that will connect young Jewish individuals with struggling communities. The organization will be divided into three units: professional placement, internship placement and educational opportunities. Each unit will be managed separately. Individuals interested in a placement or opportunity, will be eligible to receive personal and professional development in return for playing an active role in supporting a community's needs. The organization will use existing resources for the sake of cost effectiveness and efficiency. The organization plans to work together with Jewish and non-Jewish organizations to generate and create the professional and educational opportunities including, scholarships to local universities, internships and work placements in local businesses.



Occupation: Freelance Writer, PR Expert and Founder, International Jewish Artist Colony
Currently resides in: United States of America



Patricia Eszter Margit is an author, journalist, sociologist and community organizer from Hungary. Her writing has appeared in the JTA, Jerusalem Report, Ejewishphilanthropy, Jewish Renaissance, Nepszabadsag (the largest Hungarian daily), Szombat, and Marie Claire magazine. She has perfected her writing skills as a Woolridge Fellow at Columbia University's writing department (where she also received an M.P.A. in Public Administration) and the New School. Eszter has learned Torah at the Pardes Institute of Jewish Studies, the Conservative Yeshiva, Yeshiva Simchat Shlomo and Sharei Bina in Safed. Previously, she worked at the Jewish Council for Public Affairs, the Carlebach Shul, Romemu Center and Columbia University in New York, where she resides. She is the author of *The Jewish Bride*, a bestseller published in Hungary in 2009. The novel is currently being translated to English. A world traveling writer, who has lived in France, the Netherlands and Israel, decided to move to New York when she became a Jewish bride herself.

Eszter is the founder of Art Kibbutz - International Jewish Artist Colony in New York City. Her project, the International Jewish Artist Colony, aims to create a Jewish artist community for networking, bridge building and strengthening Jewish identity. It seeks to invest in creative individuals to create a vibrant and enduring international Jewish artist community for exploring and celebrating the 21st century Jewish experience. At the core of this Artists Colony is the belief that providing a physical space for artistic creation is the most crucial: time, space, quiet, comfort, discipline, community, learning and commitment.

Piotr Mirski is a Paideia Krister Stendahl Fellow. He participated in the One Year Jewish Studies Program in 2008-2009. He also took part in other Paideia programs and encounters, including the Nachshonim Program in 2009-2010.

Piotr is a musician and the leader of the new Jewish music group, Klezmaholics. He is also pursuing his Ph.D. in philosophy, in particular, the impact of the Holocaust on modern Jewish theology. Piotr teaches Judaism in the framework of the history of religion courses at The Maria Curie-Skłodowska University.

Since April 2011, after his conversion to Judaism, Piotr has been an active member of the Jewish Reform Community of Poland, the Warsaw Progressive Jewish Community Beit Warszawa and Beit Polska. Currently, he is finishing training to lead prayers at Beit Warszawa and after graduation will become a certified cantor, which will merge both of his passions, music and spirituality, into one profession.



Occupation: Musician, Teacher and Community Leader
Currently resides in: Poland



Occupation: Playwright and Performer; Cantor, Temple Beth El, NJ
Currently resides in: United States of America
Website: www.rebeccajoyfletcher.com



Rebecca Joy Fletcher is playwright, actress, cantor, and scholar/performer of international Jewish cabaret. After college at Brown University, Rebecca made aliyah. Highlights of her five years in Jerusalem include acting and playwriting study at the School for Visual Theater. Upon return to the USA, Rebecca completed Hebrew Union College's cantorial school and was awarded a Wexner Graduate Fellowship. She also pursued vocal training with Provoce Studios and acting training with the SITI company.

In 2009, she was awarded a TCG grant for archival cabaret research in Warsaw and a Confidence grant for archival cabaret research in Tel Aviv. Performance highlights include the off-Broadway run of Rebecca's show Kleynkunst! Rebecca lives in Brooklyn with her boyfriend, Alan, and is a vice president of the Association for Jewish Theater.

Ruth Newman was born and raised in Dublin, Ireland. Despite its small Jewish population, she attended Jewish kindergarten, primary and secondary school and has always been an active member of the Jewish community. She was a member and leader in Dublin's BBYO chapter, holding the positions of Education Officer, Vice President and President. After high school, she spent a year in Israel with BBYO where she attended ulpan, volunteered as a fire fighter, taught English, and graduated from Machon I'Madrichei Chul (Institute of Leaders from Abroad).

For university, Ruth wanted to experience a larger Jewish community and so moved to Manchester, where she studied Hebrew and Jewish studies at the University of Manchester.

She continued volunteering for BBYO, leading leadership events as well as their month-long Israel tour and follow-up trip to Israel the following year.

Upon graduating, she took up the position of Director of Education for BBYO where she brought Jewish education to the forefront of every weekly chapter meeting, event and trip.

Furthering her interest in Jewish education, Ruth interned for two months at the Jewish Museum in London before being appointed Education Officer for Tzedek, a Jewish international development charity. The UK Jewish community's response to global poverty, Tzedek is a volunteer-led charity with a professional staff that works in three main areas: offering grants to grass-root projects in Ghana and India, sending volunteers to help with these projects and also in the UK, and working in Jewish schools, synagogues and youth movements to educate the Jewish community about global issues.

Currently, primary schools have been the main focus of the education packs and Ruth's role was created in order to expand what is being offered. As the Education Officer, Ruth works with youth movements and synagogues to educate and inspire global action.

Occupation: Education-Officer, Tzedek
Currently resides in: United Kingdom
Website: www.tzedek.org.uk



Occupation: Volunteer, TUJS (Turkish Union of Jewish Students)
Currently resides in: Turkey

Salvo Morhayim was born and raised in Istanbul. He completed a Computer Technology and Programming degree at the Istanbul Aydin University and he also graduated with a degree from Yildiz Technical University in Computers and Teaching. After finishing an internship and having worked for two years, Salvo is now taking a break and deciding what he will do next. Although Salvo is enjoying the change, he is eager to not to waste time, and his track-record proves as much.

In 2009, he began volunteering at TEGV, an organization that helps children from impoverished homes. Salvo taught children basic computer and technology skills. He also joined the Education Technologies Club at Yildiz Technical University where he ran seminars and workshops for students. This year, Salvo decided he wants to help his own community. He has now joined the Turkish Union of Jewish Students and is busily involved in numerous projects, organizing a variety of events.





Samuel Klein is Executive Co-Director of The Coexistence Trust, an organization that builds networks of trust and understanding between Muslim and Jewish students on campuses in the United Kingdom and provides independent advice to governments on issues of discrimination and intolerance, community engagement and social policy. Additionally, Samuel is a research fellow in the Faiths and Civil Society unit at Goldsmiths University where he is academic advisor to the national Religious Literacy in Higher Education Leadership Programme.

A lecturer and writer on theology and the arts, Samuel is a contact Improvisation and five rhythms dance practitioner with an interest in existential and Gestalt psychotherapy and Art of Movement and founder of London's "Liberated Beit Midrash," a grassroots, creative hub of learning and teaching invigorating the art of serious textual study with playful, irreverent and empathetic experiences.

Occupation: Executive Co-Director, The Coexistence Trust
Currently resides in: United Kingdom
Website: www.coexistencetrust.org



Prior to his work with the Coexistence Trust, Samuel was the Community Director of the Saatchi Synagogue in London, Director of the 'Champions of Change' leadership initiative at the United Synagogue of Great Britain & The Commonwealth and lecturer in Community Development and Religion and Public Life at Westminster University and Birkbeck College, respectively.

Samuel holds Masters' degrees in theology and religious studies (Cambridge University) and history of art (University College London) and practitioner certificates in psychotherapy and counseling psychology (Regents College London) and conflict resolution and mediation (Birkbeck College, London).



Occupation: Certified Public Accountant; Member of Limmud France
Currently resides in: France



Sarah Simha Benkemoun graduated from the University of Paris-Dauphine where she studied accounting and finance. For the past two years she has been working for the international PricewaterhouseCoopers.

Sarah divides her time between working as a certified public accountant and her involvement in French Jewish life. She is a volunteer in the Limmud France team and a member of the Limmud board. She was also in charge of fundraising and scheduling for the March 2011 conference.

Sarah loves music and the arts, especially movies, and had the opportunity to participate in the French Cannes Festival in 2007. She defines herself as modern Orthodox and she has studied in Neve Yerushalayim, an ultra-Orthodox seminary for women in Jerusalem. She has spent time in different American Jewish communities, including the Chabad community in Brooklyn and a liberal community in Manhattan.

For her work with Limmud, Sarah organizes fundraising initiatives for French Jewish institutions, such as the Fondation pour la Mémoire de la Shoah directed by David de Rothschild. She is also in charge of the schedule for the upcoming conference in March 2011.

Her future goals include organizing Torah classes for French Jews of all backgrounds.



Shoshana Bloom is head of Jewish culture for Norwood, a leading Jewish charity that supports the field of learning disabilities and children and families in need. In this role, Shoshana works on creating innovative, informal education programs and projects for children and adults. She also works with other Jewish communal organizations to develop their accessibility and approach towards the learning disabled.

A political science and modern history graduate, Shoshana has more than 12 years' experience in the third sector with a particular focus on cultural identity, the impact and lessons of genocide and vulnerable children and adults. She is passionate about building a fairer society, particularly for the marginalized.

Occupation: Jewish Cultural Manager, Norwood
Currently resides in: United Kingdom
Websites: www.norwood.org.uk *and* www.limmud.org



Shoshana's career in the Jewish community includes fundraising, campaigning and informal education, while her volunteer work includes mentoring, volunteer development and co-chairing the 2005 Limmud Conference, an international five-day Jewish educational and cultural event. She has also been a delegate at the UN Human Rights Council in Geneva and is a graduate of the Adam Science Foundation Leadership Program.

Shoshana is Co-Chair of the 2011 Limmud Conference in the UK.



Occupation: Director, Three Faiths Forum
Currently resides in: United Kingdom
Websites: www.threefaithsforum.org.uk

Stephen Shashoua was born in Canada and is of Iraqi Jewish descent. He has lived in London for the past seven years. With a professional background in education, he joined the Three Faiths Forum in 2004 and has been its Director since 2008.

Under Stephen's leadership, the organization has become one of England's largest interfaith organizations. He initiated the Forum's award-winning programs targeting schools, university students and young professionals.

Through his work on the ground, his writing and lectures, Stephen continues to promote cross-cultural and interfaith dialogue.

Stephen is a Freeman of the City of London, a Fellow of the Royal Society of Arts and the Co-Founder of Iraq in Common. The Jewish News recently named him one of the 40 individuals under the age of 40 who are making an impact on the UK Jewish Community.





Occupation: Project Coordinator, Jewish Agency for Israel/Israeli Cultural Institute
Currently resides in: Hungary
Website: www.israelculture.hu



Tamás Büchler is completing law school this semester at the ELTE University of Budapest. He grew up in Budapest, Hungary, and also spent significant periods of time in Israel. His work in the Jewish community includes Jewish youth work for various organizations such as the Jewish Agency, the Israeli Cultural Institute and the Haver Foundation. He has coordinated educational projects in the field of young Jewish leadership (MiNYanim project) and social justice (tikkun olam project). A graduate of the University of Haifa's Peace and Conflict Studies Program and Wesley College's Refugee Studies program, Tamás has coordinated international projects for the Kidma Jewish youth movement and has worked with the local Roma community in different frameworks. He is also a volunteer for Limmud Hungary.

Name of project: Urban Kibbutz Budapest
Fields in which the project is to be realized:
 Education, Community Work, Jewish Social Activism

Project status: Idea Stage

About the project: The Urban Kibbutz is a network of social entrepreneurs who would volunteer part of their time for social action, text study and group events. The project has three interdependent goals: reaching out to young adults and students, providing an educational framework and organizing social justice activities within and outside the Jewish Community. The project aims to help the community involve these young people through support and programming in ways that none of the existing organisations have been able to do over the past twenty years. The group would also work as a think-tank to bring Jewish education to people who have not had access to it. Though the project is still in the "theory" stage, a significant number of people have already expressed interest in this project.



Occupation: Author
Currently resides in: Sweden
Website: www.32postkarten.com

Torkel S. Wächter was born in Stockholm in 1961. He studied at the universities of Lund, Melbourne and Leipzig, as well as at Paideia, The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden, and at Kungliga Konsthögskolan (The Royal University College of Fine Arts) in Stockholm. He worked as a pilot with Scandinavian Airlines from 1986 to 1999. His debut novel, *Samson*, was published in 1997 (*Natur och Kultur*); his second novel, *Ciona: An Autobiology* (*AlfabetaAnamma* 2002), was short-listed for the prestigious August Prize for fiction. Since 2006 he has held joint Swedish and German citizenship.

Name of project: 32 Postkarten

Fields in which the project is to be realized:
 Education, Cultural Production

Project status: Running and Moving Towards Expansion

About the project: 32 Postkarten is the first of a series of projects dealing with memory. When Torkel's father died, he left behind some packaging cases filled with diaries, letters, articles and his unfinished memoirs. In one of the boxes was a plastic bag containing the last postcards Torkel's grandparents sent to their son (Torkel's father) before they were deported. It is now possible to read these 32 authentic postcards on the internet site www.32postkarten.com. The first postcard was published on March 29th 2010, seventy years to the day after it was written. The following 31 postcards are published in 'simulated real time' – on the date they were written, but 70 years later. After December 4th 2011, once the last postcard is been published on the Internet, a book will be published. The next project in the series will deal with the crucial year 1933, using other material found in the boxes Torkel's father left behind, and documents retrieved from various archives.



Valentina Marcenaro, who is based in Dresden, Germany, has been organizing cultural events that spotlight Italian and Jewish themes since 2002. Since 2009, she has organized cultural events for the Jewish community in Dresden, including the Jiddische Musik-und Theaterwoche Dresden (Festival for Jewish and Yiddish Culture). Other projects include Nu, ma lacht! – a look at Judaism with humor to have positive experiences with the Jewish culture, and Ten Years of the New Dresden Synagogue - The New faces of Judaism in Germany - Jewish Life Yesterday, Today, Tomorrow. Valentina also run programs for young Jewish adults (18-35) as organized by the Central Council of Jews in Germany.

Valentina didn't receive a Jewish education. During her studies, she "discovered" her Jewish roots and wrote her graduation thesis on "Jewish women between tradition and modernity in the novels of Chaim Potok."



Occupation: Cultural Manager

Currently resides in: Germany

Websites:

www.italiener-in-dresden.eu and www.jiddische-woche-dresden.de and www.jg-dresden.org



Occupation: Student, Lauder Business School

Currently resides in: Austria



Victoria Levina was born in Magnitogorsk, Russia, 24 years ago. She has always been a good student and had a happy childhood with piano lessons and a lot of loving Jewish grandparents around. After high school she studied at Magnitogorsk State University where she earned a degree in teaching of foreign languages (English and French). Apparently, that was not enough, therefore she decided to continue with her studies and to get a Master's in intercultural management and leadership, which she is currently pursuing at the Lauder Business School (LBS) in Vienna. Her work experience comprises mainly of jobs in all kinds of Jewish organizations. She also did secretarial work for a big construction company. Victoria has always been an active member of the Jewish community. She is attending the Jewish Leadership Program at LBS at the moment. She participated in numerous Jewish Leadership seminars both in Russia and abroad.

Victoria is involved in creating Limmud Day Vienna, an all-day Jewish learning event built upon the Limmud model, on November, 13, 2011 on the Lauder Business School premises. The day will be tailored for Jews of all ages, religious affiliations and origins and will be filled with workshops, discussions, art exhibits and Israeli dance. All volunteer-led, Limmud strives to create collective and communal experiences through which all the participants will be able to strengthen and develop their Jewish identity.

Vlada Bystrova Vlada Bystrova is the Project Keshet Program Director, an international Jewish women's organization, in Ukraine. Vlada participated in the first Project Keshet seminar, "A Girl - Leader" in 1997. Since 2000, she has worked for the organization. In 2002, she graduated from university with honors and continued her studies to pursue an M.A. She has always understood that Project Keshet programs are relevant not only for middle-aged women but also for young women. From 2005 to 2010, Vlada worked as the coordinator of the youth program "Next generation."

She is a part of a team that organizes and runs programs for Jewish communities, and she helps Jewish youth tap into their Jewish identity and become social activists.



Occupation:
Program Director, Project Keshet, International Jewish Women's Organization
Currently resides in: Ukraine
Website: [www.projectkeshet.ru /org](http://www.projectkeshet.ru/org)



Occupation: Counselor, Jewish Agency for Israel;
Currently resides in: Russia

Yana Brook has been actively involved in Saint Petersburg's Jewish community life since 2001. Among other things, she is a member of the ensemble of Jewish dance "Eve" and has participated in activities run by Hillel, JAFI and other Jewish organizations. Since 2007, Yana has worked for JAFI in Russia and Israel, as well as for other Jewish organizations such as Hillel and Adain Lo – as a counsellor, dancer teacher and choreographer. Yana holds a degree in cultural studies and tanach from Saint-Petersburg State University and has also studied Jewish education at Hebrew University.

Name of project: Jewish International Dance Puzzle

Fields in which the project is to be realized:
Education, Cultural Production, The Arts, Community Work, Intercultural Work

Project status: Idea Stage

About the project: The goal of the project is a dance performance on a Jewish subject, prepared by small groups from different countries. Groups will eventually come together for a big show. The groups will communicate through dance to create, develop and popularize Jewish culture. The project consists of two seminars. The first one (three days) is for dance teachers in each community taking part in the project, where they receive choreography and instructions for the performance. The second seminar (ten days) will take place just before the performance. During this seminar, participants will enjoy informal Jewish education through dance, rehearsals and excursions as well as other fun activities. Between the first and the second seminar, the dance teachers will work with the participants in their community, assisted and supervised by the project organizers. Each year, the seminars and performances can be hosted by different Jewish communities and the project may also include a tour element of the dance group.



Youri Hazanov Youri Hazanov currently works as Strategic Managing Partner at Google in Paris. Previously, he worked for The Israel Project in Washington, D.C., where he organized press conferences in Europe and Russia for top journalists and diplomats to hear experts speak about the nuclear threat of Iran and about opposing the campaign to delegitimize Israel. He also worked on positive publicity material about Israel using Web 2.0.

Youri has been involved with a variety of organizations, such as Kol D'or, the World Jewish Diplomatic Corps and Israel Connect.

Youri holds a Master's degree in international relations and an M.B.A.

A main project Youri has initiated is a website (social network) to connect people around the idea of Shabbat. This website is for people who are traveling or who are simply alone for Shabbat in their city to enable them to connect with other people who would like to host others for Shabbat. The goal being that no one should be alone for Shabbat.

Occupation: Strategic Partner Manager, Google/Youtube
Currently resides in: Switzerland



Occupation: Student; Events Organizer; Coordinator, Hillel - Project "Cities"
Currently resides in: Russia

Yulia Kelman lives in Moscow. She graduated from both the Geography and the Education Departments of the Moscow State University in 2010. She is now pursuing her post-graduate studies in a field of human geography. She organizes cultural and educational events for parents with babies and she also coordinates her project, "Cities," for Hillel. Since childhood, Yulia has been involved in the Jewish community. She participated in various Jewish programs in Russia and abroad, including the leadership project "Knafaim," the Yiddish heritage expedition to Lithuania, a Shoah seminar in Poland, a cultural and educational seminar in Prague, a Jewish summer camp in the USA and she was a staff member for Taglit-Birthright in Israel.

Name of project: Hillel - Project "Cities"

Fields in which the project is to be realized:
Community Work

Project status: Idea Stage

About the project: Yulia's project is dedicated to building personal and organizational links between Jewish communities in different cities. She believes that communication between Jews in different places intensifies their feeling of Jewish Peoplehood. This year, Yulia started her project "Cities" in Hillel, for which she was awarded a grant. The first cities she intends to "link" are Moscow and St. Petersburg, where two groups of young activists in each city will create Jewish tour programs for each other. The suggested format is that each group will prepare a short trip for its partner group, to meet and discover different forms of Jewish heritage. Tours will include activities, such as Shabbat dinners. The overarching goal is to make participants more aware of their own heritage and to spark their interest in, and connection to, other Jews.



Shoshana Boyd Gelfand

Director

Currently resides in: United Kingdom

Shoshana Boyd Gelfand is the Director of JHub, a programme of the Pears Foundation. JHub provides residency, organisational development and support to Jewish charities working in the areas of social action and innovation. Previously, Shoshana served as Chief Executive of the UK Movement for Reform Judaism and prior to that, Vice-President of the Wexner Heritage Foundation in New York. She received her rabbinic ordination in 1993 at the Jewish Theological Seminary and currently makes her home in London, with her husband, Jonathan Boyd, and their three children.


www.jhub.org.uk
**Barbara Lerner Spectre**

Founding Director

Currently resides in: Sweden

Barbara Lerner Spectre is the Founding Director of Paideia. She was formerly on the faculty of the Hartman Institute of Advanced Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, where she taught Jewish Thought. Barbara was among the founders of the Seminary of Judaic Studies in Jerusalem. Her area of research is in models of inference in Christian and Jewish post-Holocaust theology, for which she received a research grant from Yad V'Shem Institute. Barbara's publications include "A Theology of Doubt" (Hebrew) and, together with Noam Zion of the Hartman Institute, the two-volume "A Different Light: The Hannukah Book of Celebration." In 2007, she received the prestigious Max M. Fisher Prize for Jewish Education in the Diaspora.

**Erik Gribbe**

Director Paideia Project-Incubator

Currently resides in: Sweden

Erik Gribbe is the Director of the Project-Incubator. He also works with administration and resource development at Paideia. He holds a B.A. and M.A. in Business and Economics from the Stockholm School of Economics and a B.A. in Liberal Arts from Stockholm University. Before joining Paideia in 2007, he worked for the UNICEF, setting up a municipal statistics office in the Dominican Republic, as a high school teacher, translator and as volunteer at the Red Cross. For ten years Erik pursued the arts as a dancer at the Royal Swedish Ballet.

**Mordechai (Mordy) Cohen**

Scholar-in-Residence

Currently resides in: Sweden

Mordy Cohen is scholar-in-residence at Paideia for 2011-2012. He is a graduate of the Hebrew University of Jerusalem in Talmud and Hebrew literature, and has an M.A. in Bible from the Herzog College at Alon Shvut. Aside from holding various management positions at informal education organizations, he has also spent many years teaching a wide range of subjects in Jewish Studies.


www.paideia-eu.org
**Netta Frister Aaron**

Logistics Coordinator

Currently resides in: Sweden

Netta Frister Aaron, a cultural producer of art for the stage, is a graduate of the Dramatic Institute of Stockholm. Netta has gained a rich experience in the arts, producing concerts, festivals, debates and international guest performances. She has produced for Södra Teatern, the Jewish Community of Stockholm and arts colleges. Netta has been leader of the Art Track at Paideia and head producer of Paideia's Month of the Arts. She is also coordinator for the Art & Text Dialogue course and has served as a consultant for the production of two Project-Incubator programs.



Justin Korda
Executive Director
Currently resides in: Israel

Justin Korda, ROI Community's Executive Director, has been with ROI since its inception in 2005. In 1999, Justin led the first Taglit-Birthright Israel trip from Canada. He went on to become the coordinator of follow-up programs for returning participants and he later served in a number of positions at the Canada-Israel Experience where he was instrumental in implementing Taglit-Birthright Israel for the first 5,000 participants from Canada.

Justin holds an M.B.A. from the Interdisciplinary Center (IDC) Herzliya and a B.A. in Political Science from McGill University. He lives with his family on a moshav in the outskirts of Jerusalem.



Beto Maya
Program Manager
Currently resides in: Israel

As the Program Manager for ROI, Beto Maya is responsible for Summit selection, programming, regional gatherings and more. Born in Mexico City, Beto was very active in Zionist youth movements and he made aliyah in 1993. Upon completion of his Bachelor of Education Degree from the Beit Berl College in informal education and Israel studies, he worked for the World Zionist Organization. Beto returned to Mexico City for three years as a shaliach for the Jewish Agency. He later worked as the Education Coordinator for the Herzl Museum and then joined ROI. Beto lives in Modi'in with his family.



Elissa Krycer
Communications Manager
Currently resides in: Israel

Elissa Krycer joined the ROI team in February 2011 as a writer and she is currently responsible for communications. Elissa grew up in Australia as an active member of the Bnei Akiva Zionist youth group. She graduated from Monash University with bachelor degrees in Law and Commerce. In 2006, within days of making aliyah, Elissa began her tests to qualify as an Israeli lawyer. After gaining experience in a commercial Tel Aviv law firm and a Jerusalem-based British law firm, Elissa moved into the non-profit world. Elissa currently lives in Nachlaot, opposite Jerusalem's famous Machane Yehuda market.



Nir Ortal
JPropel Coordinator
Currently resides in: Israel

Since 1996 Nir Ortal has worked as coordinator, educator and guide in various frameworks of the Zionist "alphabet soup."

Raised in Jerusalem, Nir completed his B.A. in archaeology and Jewish history from the Hebrew University in Jerusalem. He taught at the University of Arizona and then returned to his beloved Jerusalem and became Executive Director of WUJS. Nir returned to studies pursuing an M.A. in Archeology (he still enjoys playing in the dirt!). Nir believes that time flies like an arrow, but fruit flies like a banana.



No'a Gorlin
Grants Manager
Currently resides in: Israel

No'a Gorlin is responsible for all grant-making within the ROI Community. She began her career as a marketing professional in the Israeli high-tech industry but soon switched to the non-profit sector to impact the Jewish world. No'a served as Associate Director of Kolot, an organization that works to enhance Jewish identity among secular Israelis through Jewish text study. As a Program Officer at the Chais Family Foundation, which seeks to advance educational excellence in Israel and deepen Jewish identity, she managed the full grant cycle. Before joining ROI, she developed partnerships at the Rashi Foundation. No'a lives in Jerusalem with her family.

Amy Philip

Deputy Director, Pears Foundation

Currently resides in: United Kingdom

Amy Philip has been Deputy Director of Pears Foundation since 2007. She is responsible for the Foundation's operations and for the strategic direction and management of its UK partnerships and programmes, with particular focus on the Jewish community, citizenship, community relations and Holocaust Education. Prior to joining the Foundation, Amy was responsible for the 2006 UK Parliamentary Inquiry into Anti-Semitism and before that she was policy advisor to the Deputy Mayor of London. She has also been a Limmud volunteer for 9 years, including serving as a Trustee. She is currently responsible for training on the Limmud International steering group.



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Charles and Lynn
SCHUSTERMAN
FAMILY FOUNDATION

www.pearsfoundation.org.uk
www.schusterman.org

Seth CohenDirector of Network Development,
Charles and Lynn Schusterman
Family Foundation**Currently resides in:** USA

Seth Cohen is Director of Network Development for the Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation, leading its efforts to create global networks of young Jewish adults around the world. He is also involved in the day-to-day legal affairs of the Foundation.

Seth was a corporate attorney for 13 years, recently as a partner at the international law firm of Holland & Knight LLP. A Wexner Heritage Program graduate, he has served as a volunteer activist in the local and national Jewish community. Currently, he is a member of the Young Leadership Cabinet of Jewish Federations of North America. Seth lives with his family in Atlanta.

**Dina Gidron**

Consultant and Trainer

Currently resides in: Israel

Dina Gidron is a management and strategic consultant in the nonprofit and for-profit sectors in Israel and abroad. Following a long career in business, Dina took up the position of Emissary for the Jewish Agency in Canada. Upon returning to Israel, Dina joined JDC as Director of Donor Relations in the International Relations Division where she managed a team focused on developing and fostering links between JDC programs in Israel and around the world with North American Federations, foundations and private donors. Dina holds an M.B.A. and her B.A. from Jerusalem's Hebrew University. Dina and her family live in Zur Hadassa.

**Nirit Roessler**

Consultant and Trainer

Currently resides in: Israel

Nirit Roessler conducted special research at Jerusalem's Tower of David Museum and worked at the Jerusalem Van Leer Institute before she discovered the fascinating world of NGOs. After working for a German political foundation in Israel, Nirit then headed the Resource Development Department in Shatil for 8 years. She has vast experience in fundraising consultation, writing guidebooks, training and capacity-building for sustainability both in Europe and in Israel. Between 2005 and 2011 Nirit was the director of the Pradler NGO Empowerment Program. Having recently completed an M.A. in Organizational and Strategic Consultation, she is now a freelance consultant and trainer.

**Patrick Levy**

Consultant and Trainer

Currently resides in: Israel

Patrick Levy is a counselor for non-profit organizations on organizational strategy, peer education and fundraising in Israel through the Joint, the New Israel Fund, the UN and other bodies. He also represents a foundation and directs a program for organizations of people with disabilities. Patrick has taught Israel, France and the United Kingdom and he has served as executive director of national and international non-profit organizations. Patrick advises various city mayors in Israel, businesses, foundations and private donors in Jewish and Arab communities in Israel and around the world. Patrick specializes in tri-dimensional projects, cooperation between businesses and non-profit, peer education and health issues.

About Jumpstart

Jumpstart works across the globe to inspire and equip builders of compelling, relevant, and meaningful Jewish life. As a research & development laboratory for the Jewish future, we provide philanthropic and nonprofit leaders with the knowledge, networking, and infrastructure they need to advance Jewish innovation. We educate and convene emerging Jewish leaders across North America, Europe, and Israel, giving them practical information to create and steward strong, stable organizations. Jumpstart's most recent publications are Key Findings from the 2010 Survey of New Jewish Initiatives in Europe (<http://j.mp/njieur10>) and The Jewish Innovation Economy: An Emerging Market for Knowledge and Social Capital (<http://j.mp/njina10>).



www.jumpstart.org



Joshua Avedon
Co-Founder/COO

Currently resides in: USA

Joshua Avedon is Co-Founder/COO of Jumpstart, an incubator, think tank and catalyst for Jewish innovation. A start-up veteran with an MBA in nonprofit management, Joshua is also a CLI-certified facilitator and member of Selah cohort 6. Joshua has spent the last several years writing, teaching and advocating for innovation within the Jewish community around the globe. He is recognized leader in forward-thinking use of technology, viral communication and community-building strategies within the world of emerging Jewish organizations. Joshua lives with his wife Stephanie and three children, Elias, Navi and Sarit in the house where he grew up in Venice, California.



Shawn Landres
Co-Founder/CEO

Currently resides in: USA

Shawn Landres, the Co-Founder and CEO of Jumpstart, is an experienced leader with deep connections to emerging Jewish communities in Europe and North America. The Forward has called him "an essential thinker in explaining the new Jewish spirituality and culture." Widely published in many languages, Shawn holds degrees in Religious Studies and Social Anthropology from Columbia, the University of California, Santa Barbara, and Oxford. He has advanced certification from 21/64 as a consultant/trainer in multigenerational family philanthropy. An Ariane de Rothschild Fellow, Nahum Goldmann Fellow, and member of the ROI Community, he has been recognized in the Forward 50 (2009) and the Big Jewcy (2011). Shawn lives in Santa Monica, California, with his wife and two daughters.



Aharon Horwitz

Co-Founder and Co-Director

Currently resides in: Israel

Aharon Horwitz is the co-Founder and co-Director of the Presentense Group, the Jewish World's leading community entrepreneur startup platform. Each year, Presentense partners with thousands of volunteers worldwide to build a vibrant Jewish People. Aharon lives in Jerusalem but regularly travels the Jewish world to Presentense's many outposts, where he enjoys working with passionate social entrepreneurs that see opportunity where others see only obstacles.



Ariel Beery

Co-Founder and Co-Director

Currently resides in: Israel

Ariel Beery is the co-Founder and co-Director of the Presentense Group, and serves as the editor and publisher the Group's Magazine, as well as directs its educational fellowships. Ariel holds graduate degrees in Jewish Studies and Nonprofit management from New York University, and undergraduate degrees in Economics and Political Science from Columbia University. He is a widely-published columnist and he teaches at conferences worldwide on issues pertaining to the Jewish People, Zionism, and the impact of the Information Age. Ariel was named one of the 10 Jews to Watch by the World Jewish Digest, and was a finalist in the Brandeis University search for a Visiting Professor for Jewish Communal Innovation.

www.presentense.org

**About Presentense**

Presentense is a largely volunteer-run community of innovators and entrepreneurs, thinkers and leaders, creators and educators, from around the world, who are investing their ideas and energy to revitalize the established Jewish community.

Presentense is upgrading the Jewish people's operating system by growing the next generation of social entrepreneurs.

We build Community around expressing and sharing new ideas, enable Creativity to refine those ideas, and train Pioneers to launch their ideas into successful ventures.

Lisa Capelouto

Freelance Consultant

Currently resides in: USA

Lisa Capelouto is a consultant to several Jewish start ups and foundations and has worked with Jewish social entrepreneurs across Europe.

She has recently moved to New York from London where she was the founder and director of JHub – a Jewish incubator focused on social action and innovation as well as an advisor to the JCC for London and the Pears Foundation



Rani Jaeger

Visiting Scholar, Paideia - The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden

Currently resides in: Israel

Rani Jaeger was the Scholar-in-Residence at Paideia for the year 2009-2010. Rani is the head of the teachers' training school at the Shalom Hartman Institute, which pioneers a new model of Jewish education for Israeli secular high schools. He teaches at Tel-Aviv University and is currently pursuing his Ph.D. at Bar-Ilan University, at the department of Hermeneutics. Rani is one of the founders of "Beit Tefilah Israeli", a new liberal synagogue in the heart of Tel Aviv.



Clive Lawton

Co-Founder and Senior Consultant, Limmud

Currently resides in: United Kingdom

Clive is co-Founder of Limmud and is now its Senior Consultant. He is also scholar-in-residence at the London Jewish Cultural Centre, a magistrate, a governor of London's police force and a freelance international consultant in diversity issues and organizational, team and leadership development. He has broadcast and published widely. He has been a High School principal, Chair of a hospital Trust, CEO of 'Jewish Continuity,' deputy director of Liverpool's municipal education service, is a recognized expert in calendars and has four Masters degrees.



David Lazar

Rabbi, Stockholm Jewish Community

Currently resides in: Sweden

David Lazar lived in Israel for 35 years and played an active role in the development of the Masorti/Conservative Movement there. He is the founding director of RIKMA: Spiritual Community Leadership Training. He began this year at a new position as Rabbi of the Great Synagogue in Stockholm, Sweden. He is one of the first rabbis to officiate at same gender Jewish religious weddings and spent much of the last decade supporting GLBTQ causes in Israel and throughout the Jewish World.



Gil Kofman

Filmmaker

Currently resides in: USA

Gil Kofman was born in Nigeria and raised in Israel and NYC. He has an MFA in playwriting from the Yale School of Drama. His play - American Magic - was produced in NY, LA, and London with music by Sonic Youth. His film "The Memory Thief" won the Edmonton Film Festival and Jury Prize at Red Rock Film Festival. The New York Times called it "morally audacious and intriguingly original." In 2008, he edited and acted in "You Won't Miss Me," which won a Gotham Award and played at Sundance and SXSW. Last summer, Gil directed a thriller in China, "Case Sensitive," that got a wide release in China this June.



Pears Foundation:

Amy Philip, Deputy Director

Charles and Lynn Schusterman Family Foundation:

Seth Cohen, Director of Network Development

Speakers & Special Guests:

Andreas Heinecke, Clive Lawton, Rabbi David Lazar, Felicia Herman, Lena Posner-Körösi, Dr. Nir Tsuk, Sally Berkovic

Hugo Valentin Centre at Uppsala University:

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We would warmly like to thank our program partners at the Hugo Valentin Centre at Uppsala University. The centre is an inter-disciplinary forum with research as its prime task. Research is carried out within two prioritized areas: on the one hand cultural and social phenomena and processes of change related to the ethnic dimension in human life, on the other hand the Holocaust and other cases of genocide and severe crimes against human rights.

While we celebrate our creative, religious and personal freedoms, we remember those who still suffer the indignity of captivity. In particular, we extend our thoughts and prayers to **Gilad Shalit**. May we witness his safe and imminent return home.

To all of you, and to those of you who were mistakenly omitted, we express our most sincere appreciation. Thank you for your numerous contributions to the **2011 Summer of Change**.

Sponsors:



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