

explore jewish life. meet new people. get inspired.

MJE

manhattan jewish experience

Celebrating
25

years of Jewish outreach in NYC

2023-2024
Event Guide

www.jewishexperience.org | 212.787.9533
Rabbi Mark Wildes, Founder & Director

MANHATTAN JEWISH EXPERIENCE

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MJE IS DEDICATED IN LOVING MEMORY
OF RUTH B. WILDES Z"l

Welcome to MJE...

a warm and open community where young men and women
can explore Jewish life and meet new people.



MJE ANNUAL DINNER 2023

Dear Friends,



Thank you for your support and for joining us as we celebrate 25 years of successful Jewish outreach!

In the last 25 years, MJE has gone from a small operation on the Upper West Side to three vibrant sites in all parts of the city.

Our programs and classes have touched thousands, resulting today in a whole new generation of children attending Jewish Day schools. MJE's inspirational and user-friendly programs, including our Beginners Services, One-on-One learning, Basic Judaism and Hebrew Classes, Israel Trips, Retreats/ Shabbatonim, Fusion and Fellowship programs, have transformed the lives of thousands of our Jewish brothers and sisters.

The thousands of young Jewish men and women who have joined us for programs, Torah classes and Shabbat services should give us all great encouragement and inspiration. Thank you - our devoted supporters, our talented and dedicated staff, and of course, the Almighty for blessing us with the ability to make such a huge difference in the lives of so many people. May God continue to bless our noble efforts and may we go from strength to strength!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Wildes'.

**Rabbi Mark Wildes
Founder/Director**

MANHATTAN JEWISH EXPERIENCE

**MJE West - 131 West 86th Street New York, NY 10024
MJE East - 125 East 85th Street New York, NY 10028
MJE Downtown - 239 West 14th Street New York, NY 10011
www.jewishexperience.org | 212.787.9533**



MJE West

BASIC JUDAISM WITH RABBI MARK WILDES MONTHLY MONDAYS @ 7:00 PM

Brush up on your Judaism basics! Join us weekly for interactive and dynamic conversations with Rabbi Mark Wildes and world-renowned guest speakers like Rudy Rochman! We are proud open dialogue sharing the Torah's perspective on relationships, business, politics, philosophy, traditions and faith.



HEBREW 101 WITH RABBI MARK WILDES WEDNESDAYS @ 6:00 PM

Interested in taking your Hebrew skills from zero to 100? Here is your chance to learn the letters, vowels and basic reading. Whether you are preparing to go to Israel or want to follow along at a Shabbat service, this is the class for you!

ONE ON ONE LEARNING WITH CHANI PERLMAN & AARON BLUSTEIN WEDNESDAYS @ 7:00 PM

A night of learning, socializing, and getting your questions answered. Get a 'personal trainer' in Jewish study to explore any issue or topic of your choice.



SOCIALS & HAPPY HOURS MONTHLY WEDNESDAYS @ 5:00 PM

Let's eat, drink, schmooze and network! Join over 100 young Jewish professionals for a fun night out; experience new adventures and possibly meet the person of your dreams (who will surely gain your Bubbie's stamp of approval)!





MJE East

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH CONGREGATION KEHILATH JESHURUN

TUESDAY TALKS WITH RABBI AVI HELLER

TUESDAYS @ 7:00 PM

Join us for a fun evening at KJ on the Upper East Side. Enjoy hot topics, delicious dinners, cold drinks and l'chaims with a fun crowd of young Jewish professionals. Conversations range from Modern Medical Ethics to Jewish Holidays to Relationships to History.



TUESDAY SOCIALS

MONTHLY TUESDAYS @ 7:00 PM

The BEST social events! Hang out, network, play games, meet new friends & have a l'chaim with MJE East's monthly socials like Beer n Bingo, Trivia Night, Sangria on the Rooftop, Courtyard Cocktails and Central Park hangouts.

BEGINNERS HEBREW

QUATERLY SERIES TUESDAYS @ 6:30 PM

Rabbi Avi makes it easy! Sound out vowels, learn memorization techniques and start to read Hebrew, impressing family and friends. This class takes your skills from zero to hero!



EAST MEETS WEST

QUARTERLY SHABBATS

Let's bring the MJE community together! MJE East joins MJE West once every quarter for FNL, Shabbat services and social kiddushes!

For more info, email east@jewishexperience.org



WE WOULD LIKE TO RECOGNIZE THE GENEROUS SUPPORT FOR ALL EVENTS HOSTED AT KJ
IN HONOR OF GEORGE ROHR AND THE KJ BEGINNERS PROGRAM



MJE Downtown

DOWNTOWN CONVERSATIONS WITH RABBI EZRA COHEN **WEDNESDAYS @ 8:00 PM**

Relax after work in an intimate lounge room setting with other young Jewish professionals in their 20s and 30s for wine, light dinner and socializing. Explore Judaism. Learn about your heritage and delve into cutting edge issues. Topics include: Free Will, Sexuality, The Afterlife, Chosen People, Laws of Kosher, Israel, The Festivals and The Sabbath.



MEDITATION, TORAH & SPIRITUALITY **WEDNESDAYS @ 7:00 PM**

Close your eyes, breathe deep and take a minute to yourself. Guided immersive experiences with Rabbis and spiritual leaders, that will leave you feeling renewed and inspired.

HOLY HEBREW **WITH RABBI EZRA COHEN** **QUARTERLY WEDNESDAYS**

Delve into the secrets and mysteries of our ancient language while learning to understand prayers. A few classes with MJE and you'll be ready to have a basic conversation in Israel!



The MJE Shabbat

DINNERS & PROGRAMS

Shabbat Dinners

MEET NEW PEOPLE. ENJOY GREAT FOOD. GET INSPIRED.

Join our unique crowd of Jewish professionals in their 20's and 30's for fun, spirited evenings with dynamic speakers, featuring Shabbat beginner services, a catered dinner, and buffet dessert. Friday night dinners are offered almost every week at our West, East or Downtown location.

Sponsored by Olga and Maurice Kaufman

FNL: Friday Night Lights

WITH AARON & LEORA BLUSTEIN

FRIDAYS @ 6:30 PM AT MJE WEST

We bring in Shabbat together every week with a musical, soulful Kabbalat Shabbat full of singing, great food, drinks, meaningful conversations, spirituality, and a wonderful community.

Shabbat Spirit

WITH AARON & LEORA BLUSTEIN
SATURDAYS @ 5 PM IN CENTRAL PARK

Delve into the meaning and relevance of our lives by discussing various timely topics, the weekly Torah Reading and more.

Fusion Shabbat Meals

WITH ELLIE SELEVAN
& THE MJE FUSION TEAM

Join with MJE's Fusion Leaders for spiritual Shabbat meals hosted on select Friday nights and Shabbat afternoons.



Third Meal Series

Enjoy a spiritual, song-filled meal with friends, followed by a musical Havdalah service.

Shabbat and Holiday Hospitality

Shabbat and Holiday meals hosted in local families' homes for a warm personal atmosphere.

Experience

SERVICES & GUEST SPEAKERS

Better than shopping... Better than sleeping in... Better than the gym...
Join us for an inspiring, user-friendly, explanatory, no Hebrew necessary service
followed by Kiddush, refreshments and socializing.

West Saturday Morning

WEEKLY BEGINNER SERVICES & BRUNCH

Led by Rabbi Mark Wildes & Chazzan Benny Amar | Saturdays @ 9:30 AM

MJE WEST @ 131 W 86TH ST. 10TH FL

10:30 AM Cafe Connect Class with Aaron & Leora Blustein

11:00 AM Sermon with Rabbi Mark Wildes or Scholar in Residence

11:45 AM Kiddush Luncheon

FOR KIDDUSH SPONSORSHIP: DRIKER@JEWISHEXPERIENCE.ORG

Special Guest Speakers

Join us in welcoming the best and the brightest Scholars in Residence to MJE West!

For more information contact ecohen@jewisheexperience.org



Rabbi Moshe Weinberger
Author, Speaker, Educator
Congregation Aish Kodesh
Fall 2023



Lori Palatnik
Educator, Author, Community
Leader
Cofounder of Momentum
Spring 2024

Raizi Chechik
Speaker, Expert Educator in
Tanach and Jewish History
Winter 2023



Rabbi Jeremy Gimpel
TV Personality, Educator
Israel Inspired Podcast
Summer 2024



Downtown Saturday Morning

Monthly Beginner Services
& ShaBrunch

Led by Rabbi Ezra Cohen
Saturdays @ 10 AM

MJE DOWNTOWN @ LA NACIONAL



Saturday Lunches

Shabbat Lunches
with MJE Families
Set up by Jill Wildes
& Rabbi Avi Heller
Saturdays @ 1PM



Holidays

CELEBRATE WITH MJE

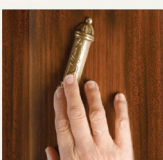
We love our holidays at MJE. Crazy celebrations, thoughtful discussions, gourmet meals, meaningful ceremonies... we do it all!

HOLIDAYS SCHEDULE 2023-2024

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 9.15 - 9.17 | • Rosh Hashanah Services, Kiddushes & Dinner |
| 9.24 - 9.25 | • Yom Kippur Services & Break Fast |
| 9.29 - 10.6 | • Sukkot Services & Kiddush |
| 10.7 - 10.8 | • Simchat Torah Services & Party Celebration |
| 12.7 - 12.15 | • Chanukah Themed Party
<i>Join our pre-Chanukah happy hour Nov 30th</i> |
| 3.23 - 3.24 | • Purim Party, Megilah Reading & Holiday Meal
<i>Join our pre-Purim happy hour March 21st</i> |
| 4.22 - 4.30 | • Passover 1st & 2nd Night Seders & Services |
| 5.6 | • Yom Hashoah (Holocaust Remembrance Day)
Memorial Service & Survivor Presentation |
| 5.12 - 5.13 | • Yom Hazikaron (Memorial Day) |
| 5.13 - 5.14 | • Yom HaAtzmaut (Israel Independence Day)
Special Class & Celebration |
| 6.11 - 6.13 | • Shavuot All Night Learning & Rooftop Sunrise Services |
| 8.12 - 8.13 | • Tisha b'Av Services, Kumsitz, Special Presentation |

MJE MITZVAH PROJECT

MJE FACILITATES GROWTH OPPORTUNITIES FOR THOSE READY TO TAKE ON A BIT MORE "CAUSE EVERY JOURNEY STARTS WITH A FIRST STEP"



Do(o)r L'd(o)r:
Mezuzah Project



It's a Wrap!
Tefillin Project



Light It Up!
Shabbat Candlesticks

MITZVAH PROJECTS ARE GENEROUSLY SPONSORED BY THE BELLOW'S FAMILY



CREATE NEW CONNECTIONS

Parties

JOIN HUNDREDS OF YOUNG
JEWISH PROFESSIONALS FOR OUR MEGA PARTIES!



CHANUKAH CELEBRATION
Celebrate the Holiday of Lights with music, candle lighting, open-bar & our very own Chanukah hors d'oeuvres.



**SEASONAL HAPPY HOURS
& ROOFTOP COCKTAILS**
Hundreds of Manhattan's young Jewish professionals come together for MJE's happy hours. You never know who you'll meet!



PURIM PARTY
Join the best themed costume contest & celebration in the city. Open-bar & special Purim cocktails.

ANNUAL DINNER

APRIL 2, 2024
MUSEUM OF JEWISH HERITAGE



RUTH B WILDES MEMORIAL LECTURE

DECEMBER 2023



BLOOD DRIVE & MITZVAH FAIR

NOVEMBER 12, 2023





Israel

SPIRITUAL GANGSTA STYLE

ISRAEL TRIPS | 7.27.24 - 8.5.24



MJE EDIDIN HERITAGE ISRAEL TRIP

Whether you have been before or it is your first time, MJE's summer trip to Israel is the perfect way to see our country and connect to our homeland. From Jerusalem hot spots to the mystical Tzfat to volunteering with children to spending Shabbat with locals, MJE's Israel trip as it all. Join other 20s & 30s for this meaningful experience!

CLAIRE & JACK MARGOLIOUS AND MARYILN MARGOLIOUS CRAFT FELLOWSHIP TRIP TO ISRAEL

Culminating their year of study in the MJE Fellowship Program, the Fellows travel to and explore Israel's history, food, culture and spirituality, bringing to life what they have learned all year.



YOM HAZIKARON & YOM HA'ATZMAUT | 5.12.24 - 5.14.24

Join MJE as we commemorate Israel's Memorial Day and celebrate Israel's Independence Day with IDF soldiers and an inspirational program.

CELEBRATE ISRAEL PARADE | 6.2.24

March up Fifth Avenue with MJE as we join thousands to celebrate Israel.



Retreats

MJE SPRING RETREAT

GET OUT OF TOWN! LET US DO THE PLANNING...



WINTER

VERMONT SKI RETREAT

2.1.2024 - 2.4.2024

Ski, snowboard & enjoy the outdoors in the snow-capped Vermont mountains. Relax at the end of the day in resort facilities with a great group of people, connect with friends, new and old. Enjoy an inspiring Shabbat program.

SPRING

BERKSHIRES RETREAT

6.21.2024 - 6.23.2024

Enjoy the outdoors with fresh water lakes, boating, hiking & ziplining. Sports include basketball, tennis & volleyball. The facilities feature a fitness center as well. Experience an unforgettable Shabbat & musical Havdalah jam.



Fellowship



MJE LAMM FELLOWSHIP CLASS OF 2022-2023

MJE Fellowships, now in its 17th year with 237 graduates to date, is a select cadre of MJE participants with little or no prior Jewish education who have expressed a desire to move their Jewish learning to the next level. The program seeks to educate and helps to produce knowledgeable and passionate leaders for the future. This year's class includes 20 men & women who meet each week for serious Jewish study and other important Jewish experiences. The fellowship was dedicated in honor of Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm z"l for his years of extraordinary scholarship and leadership on behalf of the Jewish people.

PROGRAM INCLUDES

CLASSES

SEMINARS ON JEWISH EXPERIENCE

ESSENTIALS IN FAITH AND BELIEF
WITH RABBI AVI HELLER

THE NEXT LEVEL
WITH RABBI MARK WILDES

FACETS OF THE TORAH

EXPERIENCES

ISRAEL TRIP

SPRING RETREAT

SHABBATONS

SOCIAL EVENTS

MATZAH FACTORY TOUR

MENTORSHIP

EACH FELLOW IS ASSIGNED A MENTOR FROM THE MJE STAFF TO GET THE MOST FROM THE PROGRAM

MAYER OFFMAN FELLOW

EACH YEAR ONE OF THE MJE FELLOWS IS SPONSORED IN MEMORY & MERIT OF MAYER OFFMAN z"l. MAYER SERVED ON THE MJE BOARD OF DIRECTORS FOR 15 YEARS, WAS INSTRUMENTAL IN ESTABLISHING MJE AND CARED DEEPLY ABOUT JEWISH OUTREACH.

**The Claire & Jack Margolius and Marilyn Margolius Craft MJE Fellowship Israel Trip is sponsored by Leigh and Daniel Waxman.*

FOR MORE INFO, EMAIL LEAH@JEWISHEXPERIENCE.ORG



GRADS.MJE

The Graduate Student Community of The
Manhattan Jewish Experience

www.jewishexperience.org/grads

- ✓ Professional and Social Connections
- ✓ Student-centered programming with large discounts
- ✓ Opportunities to learn from Jewish leaders & scholars
- ✓ The newest and most exciting community for Jewish Graduate Students in NYC

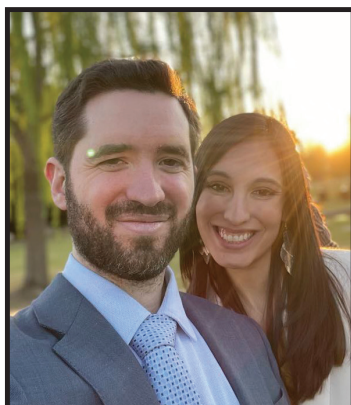


386 AND COUNTING...



MJE Couples

ZOE & JEREMY



ADRIAN & ALEXA



RAFI & NESLY



HANNAN & LAUREN

MJE is a place where many couples have met and eventually married. Join the growing number of MJE young couples through our ongoing couples educational and social programming. Make new friends, develop a sense of community, and deepen relationships. Events include Shabbat dinners, guest lecturers, cocktail parties and more. For further information or to be added to our Couples list please contact: jillwildes@gmail.com



LYDIA & TROY

Thanks to All of our Generous Donors

MJE PROGRAM SPONSORS

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ALAN SCHRAGER
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Leon Wildes

WOMEN EDUCATORS & PROGRAMMING



Jill Wildes



Chani Perlman



Allison Reich



Shana Davis



Leora Blustein

MJE's stellar staff of Women Educators teach classes, monthly Women's workshops, mentor students in one-on-one learning and inspire spiritual growth.



WEEKLY PODCAST WITH RABBI MARK WILDES

The
Wildescast
AN MJE PODCAST

Join the Wildescast Podcast weekly with Rabbi Mark Wildes, where he interviews some of the most fascinating people: Hollywood stars, music industry legends, Wall Street tycoons, Israeli relationship experts, worldly and wise Rabbis, award-winning authors and more. Through this platform, Rabbi Mark Wildes is able to reach thousands of millennials and Jews all over the world, spreading his unique perspective and Torah-based insights.

DUMISANI WASHINGTON
Institute For
Black Solidarity With Israel



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DAVID SACKS
Emmy Award Winning
TV Writer, Simpsons



RABBI YY JACOBSON
Torah & Jewish
Mysticism Scholar

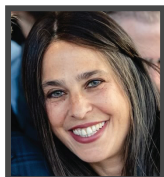


MJE Staff Meet the Family



RABBI MARK WILDES | FOUNDER AND DIRECTOR

Rabbi Mark Wildes holds a BA in Psychology from Yeshiva University, a Law degree from Cardozo, a Masters in International Affairs from Columbia and was ordained by Yeshiva University. Since founding MJE twenty two years ago, Rabbi Wildes has become one of America's most inspirational and dynamic Jewish educators. He actively blogs for The Times of Israel and Huffington Post, runs a YouTube channel and has made appearances on CBS, ABC, Huffington Post Live MetroFocus, Fox News and is the author of the widely acclaimed books *The 40 Day Challenge* and *Beyond the Instant: Jewish Wisdom for Lasting Happiness in a Fast-Paced, Social Media World*. Rabbi Wildes is a hardcore Beatles (and particularly John Lennon) fan, and enjoys rocking out on the drums whenever possible.



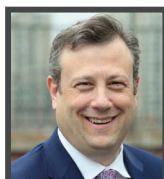
JILL WILDES | CO-FOUNDER

Hailing from Great Neck, Long Island, Jill started to become more involved in her Judaism after finishing college with a BA from the University of Wisconsin and a MSW from the Wurzweiler School of Social Work at Yeshiva University. She spends much of her time counseling MJE participants and has hosted over 10,000 guests at her Shabbat table! Rabbi Mark, Jill and their children Yosef, Ezra, Judah and Avigayil live on the Upper West Side where they maintain a warm and welcoming home for friends and newcomers.



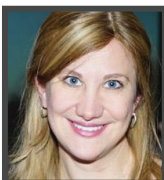
RABBI EZRA COHEN | CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER & DOWNTOWN DIRECTOR

Hailing from Atlanta, Rabbi Cohen received a BA in Speech & Marketing from Yeshiva University, an MA in Education from the Azreili School of Jewish Education and his Rabbinic Ordination from Yeshiva University. Rabbi Cohen served as Educational Director & Rabbi at the Hillel of Rutgers as well as worked at the Beth Din of America. He is a frequent speaker and enjoys tennis, playing guitar and snowboarding. Rabbi Ezra, his wife Stephanie and son Shayne Isaac live in WestChester and hosts Shabbat meals, holiday events and classes in Downtown NYC.



RABBI PINNY ROSENTHAL | DIRECTOR OF SENIOR FELLOWSHIP

From Seattle, Washington, Rabbi Pinny Rosenthal received a BS in Finance from Touro College, an MA in Education Administration from Columbia University and rabbinic ordination from Yeshiva B'nei Torah in Far Rockaway, NY. He was Dean of the Torah Academy of Long Island for 10 years & a Jewish educator for the past 20 years. He was also the lead guitarist for Shlock Rock for many years. Rabbi Pinny lives in West Hempstead with his wife Marie Beth and their six children.



CHANI PERLMAN | SENIOR EDUCATOR

Chani studied at Midreshet Moriah in Jerusalem, and then completed her B.A. in Judaic Studies from Stern College. She earned a Master's Degree in Jewish Education from the Azrieli Graduate School and is pursuing a doctorate in Jewish Education and Administration from Yeshiva University. Chani taught in the local Jewish Day School system for the past 10 years. Chani now lives in Bergenfield, NJ with her husband Alan, and their five children Donny, Margalit, Akiva, Rivka & Eli.



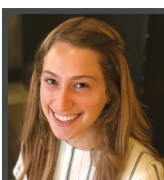
RABBI AVI HELLER | EAST SIDE DIRECTOR

Originally from Denver, Colorado, Rabbi Avi is MJE's East Side Director. He has been at MJE for 14 years! He also works as an educator for middle and high school students for the Tikva Fund. He has worked for the Orthodox Union in Community Development and as the co-director of the OU's Jewish Learning Initiative on Campus at Boston University. He received his BA from Boston University and his Rabbinic ordination and MA from Yeshiva University. He lives in Teaneck, NJ with his wife Shira and their three children. Rabbi Avi enjoys word play, the Denver Broncos, good coffee and running.



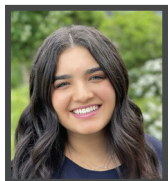
RABBI KEVIN WOLF | TRIBE TLV, MJE AFFILIATE

Kevin is originally from NJ, learned at Yeshivat Orayta and then studied Computer Science at the University of Michigan, where he developed and led the weekly program Shiur with Beer. After graduating and marrying Allison and they moved to Israel where he studied at Yeshivat Torah V'Avodah and received rabbinic ordination from Rav Zalman Nechemiah Goldberg. Kevin is also a passionate snowboarder, Citi biker and competitive ping-pong player (challengers welcome). When Kevin is not learning with his chevratas and teaching classes, you can find him spending time with his wife Allison and lovely daughter Eden.



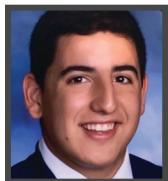
ALLISON REICH | TRIBE TLV, MJE AFFILIATE

Allison, originally from Queens, graduated as salutatorian from the Macaulay Honors College at Hunter College. Her passion for Torah study grew during her studies at Midreshet Harova, Hebrew University and the OU/JLIC program at Yeshivat Orayta. Allison was also a fellow on The Nachshon Project, which focused on building Jewish community in North America. Allison enjoys leading MJE programs, learning with community members, and running Shabbat services with her husband, Kevin and playing with their beautiful daughter Eden.



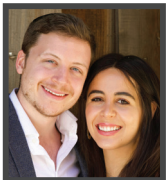
LEAH HASHIMI | SENIOR PROGRAM & MARKETING COORDINATOR (WEST SIDE)

Leah grew up in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania where she proudly graduated from Yeshiva Schools of Pittsburgh. After spending a year in seminary at Machon Shoshanat Yerushalayim in Israel, Leah attended Lander College for Women at Touro University where she recently graduated with a BA in Political Science. Leah is passionate about creating meaningful Jewish experiences for people of all ages. Recently, she worked at The Ramaz School in the Upper East Side as a Special Events Assistant where she helped plan and run their annual dinner. Leah is energetic, dedicated and always willing to lend a hand!



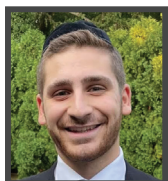
EVAN KLEIN | PROGRAM & MARKETING COORDINATOR (EAST SIDE)

Evan Klein was born and raised in Bergen County, New Jersey and graduated from the University at Buffalo with a Bachelor's Degree in Business Administration and a Minor in Jewish Studies. In addition to past experience working in Jewish life in Marketing and Development at Foundation for Jewish Philanthropies and executive board Treasurer for the UB Jewish Student Union. In his free time he enjoys watching baseball, traveling, swimming, playing basketball with friends and watching movies.



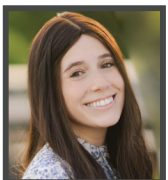
RABBI MOSHE & SHANA DAVIS | COMMUNITY LEADERS & EDUCATORS

Rabbi Moshe & Shana lead Shabbat and holiday services, regularly teach and advise MJE participants. Together they have a beautiful and bubbly daughter, Hadas. Currently, Rabbi Moshe is the Senior Advisor to the NYC Mayor, Eric Adams. He studied at Yeshiva Shaar Hatorah and Mirrer Yeshiva in Israel, and received rabbinic ordination in Jerusalem. Moshe holds a bachelor in Liberal Arts from UAGM. Shana Davis, nee Fohrman, received her undergraduate degree in psychology at Touro College, and completed graduate studies in Occupational Therapy at Touro School of Health Sciences. Shana & Moshe love to host huge Shabbat meals, connect with the MJE community and share their love of Shabbat.



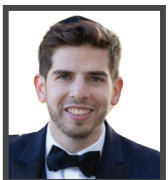
AARON BLUSTEIN | COMMUNITY EDUCATOR & ONE-ON-ONE COORDINATOR

Originally from Scarsdale, NY, Aaron Blustein is a recent graduate from Yeshiva University's Sy Syms School of Business with a BS in Finance and a member of the International Honors Society of Beta Gamma Sigma at YU. He is currently enrolled in YU's RIETS rabbinical seminary as well as in the Marcus and Adina Katz Kollel at YU led by Rabbi Hershel Schachter. Aaron currently teaches 11th grade Gemara at Frisch. He got married this summer, to Leora, at a raucous wedding that even went viral with hundreds of thousands of views. Aaron enjoys playing basketball as well as playing the acoustic guitar and singing. He is excited to be part of the MJE team and to help create more impactful and inspiring learning and growth for young Jewish professionals. Leora and Aaron look forward to meeting you and having you for a meal at their apartment on the UWS!



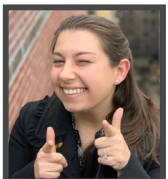
LEORA BLUSTEIN | COMMUNITY EDUCATOR

Leora, originally from Teaneck, NJ, now lives on the Upper west side with her husband, Rabbi Aaron Blustein. Leora graduated from Stern College with a major in nursing. She is currently attending NYU Meyers School of Nursing to become an RN. Leora was previously an advisor for NCSY for 2 years and has traveled around America and Israel sharing her love for Torah and Judaism with others. When Leora isn't learning with community members at MJE or hosting shabbat meals, you know you can always find her at the closest kumtitz! Leora and Aaron are excited to spend more time with the MJE community and to welcome you into their home!



ANDREW HERSHKOWITZ | SOCIAL MEDIA MANAGER

After spending 6 years producing content in the sports media industry, including stints with Sports Illustrated and Bleacher Report, Andrew discovered his true calling when he found Hashem hiding in plain sight in the text of the Torah. Andrew's new passion is creating content to share this message with others; that anyone who takes an objective look at the Torah will reach the same conclusion that Hashem is real and good, thus enriching their lives, and allowing them to walk through the confusion and distorting reality that is the human experience with everlasting inner happiness and assurance that everything will be okay.



RACHEL BENLISA SOLOVYOV | SPECIAL PROJECTS

Rachel graduated from The George Washington University, where she double majored in Marketing and International Business. She grew up in Fair Lawn and now resides in Washington Township, NJ with her handy husband, Daniel and her adorable children Blake & Jake. When Rachel is not running classes & events, you are likely to spot her at the Texas Hold'em Poker tables in Vegas or on the Scrabble board. Remember, a positive attitude goes a long way!



DEB RIKER
OFFICE MANAGER & ASSISTANT TO
RABBI MARK WILDES



JOSHUA ABELSON
CONTROLLER &
SPECIAL PROJECTS

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