



B'NAI TORAH
CONGREGATION



THE LILLIAN, PHILIP AND GERRY COOPERMAN ACADEMY FOR ADULT JEWISH LEARNING

& B'nai Torah Congregation's
Cultural Arts
Programming

2024/25

CLASS REGISTRATION

All Cooperman Academy classes (except where otherwise noted) are free to B'nai Torah members. When registering for a class, we ask that you consider financially supporting our Adult Education with a donation to B'nai Torah Congregation. This will allow us to continue to offer the high-quality programming and education that you have come to appreciate. Non-members are encouraged to join classes, at a nominal fee.

Advance online registration helps our teachers prepare and allows us to assign the proper rooms. Registration is required for each class you plan to attend, along with whether you will be in attendance in person or online. We do our best to offer hybrid learning, when possible, but hybrid classes are not recorded.

We are always adding classes, speakers and programs to our schedule, so please be on the lookout for separate publicity and registrations.

Visit: www.btcboca.org or check your emails.

All Florence Melton School of Adult Jewish Learning classes require advanced registration and tuition fees. To register, please visit www.meltonschool.org/boca

QUESTIONS?

Please contact:



Penina Bredoff,
South Palm Beach Melton Director &
Cooperman Adult Education Coordinator
phone: (561) 392-8566 ext 332
email: penina.bredoff@bnai-torah.org

or



Elysa Stark
Director of Programming & Membership
phone: (561) 392-8566 ext. 349
email: elysa.stark@bnai-torah.org

Dear B'nai Torah Learners,

Welcome to the 5785 Lillian, Philip, and Gerry Cooperman Academy for Adult Jewish Learning and B'nai Torah's Cultural Arts and Programming Booklet. Beyond our stellar list of adult Jewish learning classes and series, this year's catalogue includes our Scholars in Residence, Author Series, Women's League Book Club, Shabbat alternatives, and a variety of other special presentations. We are proud of these offerings that contribute greatly to the vitality of our wonderful community. None of this is by accident - years ago, we recognized that our community is diverse, and our members are eager for learning and Jewish experiences. We also understand the words of our rabbis - Talmud Torah K'Neged Kulam, the study of Torah is equal to everything. With all that takes place in our building, it is the study of Torah that leads us to all else.

A fundamental element of our learning is our connection with other great centers of Jewish life and education. We are very proud of our partnerships with The Florence Melton School of Adult Learning, The Shalom Hartman Institute, The Jewish Theological Seminary of America, The Hebrew University, Friends of IDF, and more.

On a personal note, this is my last year writing an introductory letter for this booklet, as I will be retiring in June 2025. Teaching here has been one of the greatest joys of my life because it is through conversations, discussions, and the exchange of ideas that we grow. Learning connects us to our past, our future, and to each other. Through these experiences, we have created a wonderful community.

I wish to thank Amy and Fred Weiss for their ongoing support of B'nai Torah's Cooperman Academy and all who contribute to this endeavor. I thank all our teachers who pursue knowledge in their effort to share their understanding with our community. Finally, there aren't enough words to sufficiently thank Penina Bredoff. She is a master at her work, and we are all the beneficiaries!

May this year be filled with fresh ideas, meaningful conversations, and the growth that comes from an open mind!

Zeil V'lmeid - GO AND LEARN!

God Bless,

Rabbi David Steinhardt

**B'nai Torah
Clergy**



**Rabbi
David Steinhardt**



**Cantor
Magda Fishman**



**Rabbi
Hector Epelbaum**



**Rabbi
Evan Susman**

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Wednesday,
October 30
at 2:00 p.m.



Book Discussion – The Bridesman by Savyon Liebrecht with Marion Hirschmann, Melton Educator

From one of the most important voices in contemporary Hebrew literature, the gripping story of a reunion between two family members that brings back a long-forgotten past and reveals secrets that will change their lives forever. The Bridesman presents a beguiling cast of characters, whose stories are interwoven into a gripping and moving tale about family, place, and the unceasing power of the past to reshape our lives and identity.

Location: At B'nai Torah Congregation and on Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/bridesman

Wednesday,
November 6
at 7:00 p.m.



Eli Beer of United Hatzalah

Eli Beer, Founder & President of United Hatzalah, will be spotlighting United Hatzalah's volunteer medics and their lifesaving work from October 7 until now.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation

Register at www.btcboca.org/united

Thursday,
November 7
at 7:00 p.m.



The Survivor Interview: A Dramatization

**A mother describes 20 hours in a safe room on October 7th
Performed by Carol Clarke Geshlinder and Sandra Swill**

In this dramatization of the actual interview, interviewer and survivor explore not only the horrors of that day, but also the existential questions raised about life and connectivity of good and evil.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation

Register at www.btcboca.org/survivors

Thursdays



The IDF: a Melting Pot Shaping Israel's Future with Rabbi Steven Weil

- **Dec. 5 at 2:00 pm:** The Challenges of Preventing an Iranian Shia caliphate from the Arabian Gulf to the Mediterranean Sea.
- **Dec. 12 at 2:00 pm:** The Challenges and opportunities that will shape the 21st century for Israel, the Islamic world, and Western civilization.
- **Dec. 19 at 7:00 pm:** Learn how ethics and morality are the guiding values and principles of the IDF soldiers.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation

Register at www.btcboca.org/fidf

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

**Tuesday,
December 10
at 12:00 p.m.**



Lunch & Learn: Judaic Art and the USPS Hanukkah Stamp

Artist Jeanette Kuvin Oren, designer of the USPS Hanukkah Stamp, will teach us how she created the stamp for the US Postal Service and about her work creating commissioned Torah mantles, ark curtains, wall hangings and mosaics. Since 1984, Jeanette has worked with more than 400 synagogues around the world. Jeanette and her husband Dr. Dan Oren are new members of B'nai Torah.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation and on Zoom

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/oren

**Wednesday,
December 11
at 2:00 p.m.**



Robert Watson, PhD at B'nai Torah Congregation

Dr. Watson, is an award-winning author, professor, historian, and analyst for numerous media outlets. He has published over 40 books on history and politics and hundreds of scholarly journal articles, book chapters, and reference essays. Supported by the Sidney Besvinick Foundation for Freedom and Democracy.

**Tuesday,
January 7
at 12:00 p.m.**



Lunch and Learn, guest speaker, Dr. Dan Oren

The Matzevah Code—How to Read a Jewish Tombstone: Language on Jewish tombstones often provide important insights into personal and family history. Some tombstones are true works of verbal and visual art, all of which may provide useful information. This interactive "how to" presentation will focus on understanding common elements of Hebrew tombstones so that the attendee will begin to feel comfortable decoding basic aspects.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation and on Zoom

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/dan-oren

**Sunday,
January 12**



BTU University: Israel & Peoplehood

Join us for our yearly B'nai Torah University program. A morning of learning for all ages, that include programs, hands-on activities and fun! BTU is endowed by the Joy and Gene Binkovitz B'nai Torah University Fund.

For more information, email cathy.berkowitz@bnai-torah.org.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Wednesday,
January 15
at 12:00 p.m.



The Pitfalls and Pratfalls of Writing a Book with Author William A. Gralnick

Join B'nai Torah Congregation member Bill Gralnick who has just finished his "magnum opus," a humorous memoir trilogy. Featuring his book, "The War of the Itchy Balls and Other Tales From Brooklyn", Bill will tell some tall tales, and talk about why Stephen King said that editing one's work is like killing one's children and why attempts at getting published can lead to the need for therapy.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation and on Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/gralnick

Thursday,
February 6
at 11:00 a.m.



Salvador Dali: A Look at his Jewish-Themed works and his pro-fascist history. Carol Salus, Ph.D., Professor Emerita, Art History, Kent State University.

With the rise of anti-Semitism in the 1930s, the artist painted several works which show interest in Hitler. Decades later, he was selected by the State of Israel to create works for its 20th anniversary.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation and Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/salus

Sunday,
February 23
at 3:00 p.m.



Community Wide Pre-Purim Concert celebrating PJ Library's 18th Birthday with PJ Library superstar Rick Recht!

Fee: \$18 per Family

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation

Contact: Elana Ostroff at elanao@bocafed.org for more info.

Thursday,
February 27
at 11:00 a.m.



Book Discussion – More than I Love Myself by David Grossman with Marion Hirschmann, Melton Educator

A remarkable novel of suffering, love, and healing—the story of three generations of women on an unlikely journey to a Croatian island and a secret that needs to be told.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation and on Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/hirschmann

Wednesday,
March 19
at 2:00 p.m.



Miriam Schapiro, Leader of Feminist Art:

Her Accomplishments and Jewish Identity with Carol Salus, Ph.D., Professor Emerita, Art History, Kent State University

Miriam Schapiro, an artist and educator, promoted the importance of women in the world of visual arts, so much so that she came to be called the Johnny Appleseed of the field.

Location: Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/discussion

SPECIAL EVENTS

On select
dates
at 7:30 p.m.

Concert Series

Concert Series

- **Leonid Ptashka** - Internationally acclaimed jazz pianist and composer - Wednesday, January 15
- **ABBAFAB** - Music of ABBA - Wednesday, February 12
- **Shai Abramson** - IDF Chief Cantor - Wednesday, February 26
- **Cantor Magda Fishman, Maestro Tomer Adaddi and Friends** - Tuesday, March 11

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation and online

For more information, contact elysa.stark@bnai-torah.org or Margie Browner-Marks, Concert Chair, at 561-715-3357.

February 1



The Melanie Jacobson Inspirational Jewish Leadership Award Presented to Rabbi David Steinhardt

This Award recognizes individuals who exemplify commitment, vision, and service in promoting Jewish values and community strength. It honors leaders who inspire others through their dedication and impact on Jewish education, culture, and philanthropy, serving as role models for future generations.

March 1



Gala Honoring Rabbi David Steinhardt

B'nai Torah Congregation's 2025 Gala honoring Rabbi David Steinhardt, celebrating 30 years of visionary leadership as he approaches retirement. Chaired by Elissa Schosheim. Join us in recognizing his impactful contributions to our community. For more information, contact elysa.stark@bnai-torah.org.

March 17



The Third Annual Phyllis and Leonard Attman Yiddishe Cup

Our golf tournament supports B'nai Torah's Youth Education Programs, including HaMakom, our inclusion Bar/Bat Mitzvah program for special needs children.

Join us for a day of camaraderie and friendly competition at the beautiful Boca Grove Country Club, chaired by Dr. Bryan Wasserman.

For more information, contact info@bnai-torah.org.

TBD



An Evening with Saskia Bory Keeley

Saskia Bory Keeley, a Swiss photographer and Interspiritual Counselor, partners with humanitarian groups worldwide. She leads photography workshops that break down fear and bias, promoting peace in global and divided communities.

Please contact elysa.stark@bnai-torah.org for more information.

MULTI-SESSION CLASSES

Mondays

Starting
September 23
at 5:45 p.m.
(12 sessions)



Hebrew Conversation 1

Instructor: Harvey Leven. See page 23 for details.

Hebrew Conversation 1A to start in January.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation

Fee: \$180 for BTC Members, \$220 for non-members

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/Convo1

November
4, 11, 18, 25,
December 2, 9
at 11:00 a.m.



Is it Time to Daven? Instructor: Rabbi Howard Shub

A journey through one of the most used texts in Judaism: the Siddur (prayer book). We will discuss the structure, history and basic prayers which constitute the basis of our faith, and which are recited daily. And why do we say those prayers?

Location: Zoom

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/daven

January 6, 13, 27,
February
3, 10, 24
at 11:00 a.m.



Sages of the Talmud - Instructor: Ed Sopher

We have all heard stories from the Talmud in sermons or in various classes. But usually the stories told are the “Cliff Notes” versions – many of the details have been left out. In this class, we will dive into the full text of several of the most famous Talmudic stories and get a better sense of the Rabbis who helped shape the Jewish law we practice today.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation and Zoom

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/sages

MULTI-SESSION CLASSES

Mondays

January
27, 3, 10, 24
at 9:30 a.m.



You Be the Judge - Instructor: Dr. Sandra Lilienthal

In this 4-week course, every session will explore several cases from the perspective of a Bet Din, a Jewish court. We will take a short case with a legal question, discuss opinions and then look at how Jewish sources would decide on that case and even compare it to a civil court's considerations. No previous knowledge of Jewish law, Jewish process, or legal systems is required. All the cases will be simply stated, and the Jewish sources discussed as needed.

Location: Zoom

Fee: \$100

Register at www.btcboca.org/judge

March 3, 10, 17,
24, 31, April 7
at 11:00 a.m.



Hatched, Matched and Dispatched. Instructor: Rabbi Howard Shub

The Jewish Life Cycle: From Birth to Death - and beyond.

Location: Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/shub

April 28,
May 5, 12, 19
at 7 p.m.



Fifty Shades of Talmud. Instructor: Dr. Sandra Lilienthal

Through a reading of stories found in the Talmud, we will explore how the Rabbis saw love and sex, not only as an integral part of life, but also as having the potential to be truly sacred moments - moments in which God is present. Two thousand years before Masters & Johnson, the Rabbis were speaking about human sexuality in a very progressive way for the times. In these 4 sessions we will have a glimpse into some of the most interesting (and sometimes bizarre) comments of the Talmudic rabbis on the topic of sex.

Location: Zoom

Fee: \$100

Register at www.btcboca.org/50shades

MULTI-SESSION CLASSES

Tuesdays

September 24 – Dec 17
at 1:15 p.m.
(12 sessions)



Hebrew Reading for Beginners

Instructor: Harvey Leven

See page 23 for details. Hebrew Reading 2 to start in January.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation

Fee: \$180 for BTC Members, \$220 for non-members

Register at www.btcboca.org/hebrewlessons

January 21, 28,
Feb 11, 18
at 10:00 a.m.



Mussar: The Jewish Way to Self-Improvement

Instructor: Helen Shub

Explore your own spiritual journey and experience personal growth through the Jewish practice of Mussar. A practical, yet deeply spiritual practice, Mussar helps us align our ideal vision of ourselves with the way we behave in the world. In this course, we will discuss character traits, such as humility, patience, compassion, and equanimity (inner peace). Using classical and modern Jewish texts, we will see how Judaism places spirituality and ethical behavior at the center of a meaningful life. Participants in this course will be provided with practical exercises to enhance their self-awareness and to integrate Mussar practice into their daily lives.

Location: Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/mussar

Tuesdays:

Lunch & Learn at 12:00 p.m.

Join our Rabbis and special guest educators for an hour of learning. You are welcome to bring a dairy/parve lunch; coffee and tea are provided.

Please register for each session.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation and Zoom

November 12 –
December 17
(no class on
Nov 26th or
Dec 10)



The Women of the Talmud with Rabbi Hector Epelbaum

We will explore and learn about the lives of six fascinating women: Yalta the Shrew, Homa the Femme Fatale, Marta the Prima Donna, Heruta the Madonna, Beruria the Wise, and Ima Shalom the Angel in the House.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation & Zoom

Register at: www.btcboca.org/talmud

MULTI-SESSION CLASSES

Tuesdays at 12:00 p.m.
Lunch & Learn

December 10



See page 5 for details.

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/oren

January 7



The Matzevah Code: How to Read a Jewish Tombstone with Dr. Dan Oren.

See Page 5 for details.

Location: B'nai Torah and Zoom

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/dan-oren

January 14 to
April 8 (no
class on
March 4)



**The Shalom Hartman Series
with Rabbi David Steinhardt**

The Hartman Institute of Jerusalem has provided some of the most thoughtful curriculum for adult learning that address today's inquiring adults. Rabbi Steinhardt will examine the conversations about Practice, Sanctity, Culture and Law.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation and Zoom

Register and purchase book (\$20) at

www.btcbo.ca.org/hartman2025

(pick up book at B'nai Torah Congregation)

April 22, 29,
May 6, 13



Exploring T'Shuvot with Rabbi Evan Susman

What are our rabbinical responses to Jewish Law? We will discuss contemporary and relevant issues that impact us individually and as a community.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation and Zoom

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/res

MULTI-SESSION CLASSES

Wednesdays

Starting
Wednesday,
Nov 13
at 9:15 a.m.



Learn with Our Rabbis: Pirkei Avot with Rabbi Hector Epelbaum

Ethical teachings of our Fathers to guide us through life. What happened to the teachings of our Mothers? Come and learn.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation & Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/our-rabbis

Starting
September 11
at 6:00 p.m.



Introduction to Judaism with Rabbi Evan Susman and Rabbi Nachshon Carmi

An opportunity for those who want a better understanding of Judaism, interested in converting to Judaism or are curious and want to explore Judaism. This is not just a course but an immersive experience where students will participate in field trips, Shabbats, holidays, social gatherings and learn with clergy and other special guests.

A fee is associated with this class.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation

To learn more, email rabbi.susman@bnai-torah.org.

November 13, 20,
Dec 4, 11 and 18
at 11:00 a.m.



Five Biblical Passages that Shock Us with Rabbi Jack Riemer

Together, we will study biblical passages that disturb our sensibilities. We will consider what to do when faced with a conflict between what the Torah says and what we think is right.

Location: Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/riemer

MULTI-SESSION CLASSES

Wednesdays

January 22, 29,
February 5, 12
at 11:00 a.m.



The Amen Effect with Rabbi Amy Pessah

We are all familiar with the use of the word “amen” in our prayers and in our lives, but what does it mean for “amen” to have an effect? Come find out with Rabbi Amy Grossblatt Pessah, as she guides us through Rabbi Sharon Brous’ new book, *The Amen Effect: Ancient Wisdom to Mend Our Broken Hearts and World*. In this insightful book, Rabbi Brous shares Jewish wisdom and personal anecdotes, offering us salve, as individuals and as a community, through the exposition of her 8 principles.

Location: B’nai Torah Congregation and Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/pessah

Feb 19, 26 and
March 5
at 1:00 p.m.



The Bible as a Literary Masterpiece with Rabbi Dr. Leon Weissberg

A review of the Biblical components that makes the Bible the unique book that it is.

Location: Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/leon

March 12, 19, 26,
April 2, April 9
at 11:00 a.m.



Five Responses to Hineni: Then and Now with Rabbi Jack Riemer

Hineni is a key word in the Torah. It appears fourteen times, each time at a fateful moment in the life of the person who says or hears it. Dr. Norman Cohen of the Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, decided to explore this word and what it means in the Torah and in our time.

Location: Zoom

Register at www.btcboca.org/riemer2

MULTI-SESSION CLASSES

Thursdays

Starting Nov 7 at
9:30 a.m.
(every Thursday)



Learn with Our Rabbis: Talmud with Rabbi Evan Susman

A compilation of ancient teachings regarded as sacred and normative from the time it was compiled until modern times. Learn how these ancient texts are still relevant in our lives.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation & Zoom

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/our-rabbis

Starting
September 12
at 6:30 p.m.



Introduction to Judaism with Rabbi Hector Epelbaum, Rabbi Nachshon Carmi, Rabbi Howard Shub, and Harvey Leven

An opportunity for those who want a better understanding of Judaism, interested in converting to Judaism or are curious and want to explore Judaism. This is not just a course but an immersive experience where students will participate in field trips, Shabbats, holidays, social gatherings and learn with clergy and other special guests.

A fee is associated with this class.

Location: Zoom only

To learn more, email rabbi.susman@bnai-torah.org.

September 19
at 10:45 a.m.
(Bi-Monthly)



Hebrew Speakers' Circle Facilitated by Harvey Leven

See page 23 for details. Continues all year.

Fee: \$150 for BTC Members, \$180 for non-members

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/circle

September 19 at
1:00 p.m.
(10 sessions)



Hebrew Conversation 2. Instructor: Harvey Leven

See page 23 for details.

Hebrew Conversation 2A to start in January.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation

Fee: \$150 for BTC Members, \$180 for non-members

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/convo2

January 16, 23,
30, February 6
at 7:00 p.m.



Climbing the Family Tree - Jewish Genealogy 101 with Dr. Dan Oren

How does one think like a Jewish genealogist? What applications and vital records websites make the search easier and what does one need? This interactive, how-to, course is designed to turn this exciting hobby into your family's history.

Location: Zoom Only

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/family

MULTI-SESSION CLASSES

Fridays & Shabbat

Starting Nov 1
at 9:00 a.m.
(every Friday)



Learn with Our Rabbis: Finding Ourselves in the Text with Rabbi David Steinhardt

A close reading and free flowing conversation of Torah texts and what they evoke in our lives.

Location: B'nai Torah Congregation & Zoom

Register at www.btcbo.ca.org/our-rabbis

September 29,
November 8,
December 6,
January 24,
February 21,
March 21, April
4, May 16

(at different
times)



Monthly Ahava Shabbat with Karen Deerwester

Ahava Shabbat is monthly Nature Shabbat experiences for families with babies through Pre-K, their siblings, and grandparents. Each event is uniquely planned with multi-sensory Shabbat experiences for young children and their families to see, touch, hear and feel the beauty of Shabbat in the natural world. Shabbat songs and blessings are led by Rabbi Evan Susman. If you'd like more information or times, contact Karen Deerwester at Karen@FamilyTimeInc.com and visit <https://www.bnaitorahecc.org/familytime/>, for more info about Family Time.

The Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach is a supporter of Ahava Shabbat.



Friday Night Shabbat Services at 5:45 p.m.

Join us for our uplifting Friday Night Musical Shabbat services! Experience a soulful evening of song, prayer, and community, led by our incredible clergy. It's the perfect way to welcome Shabbat with joy and inspiration.



Saturday Shabbat Sanctuary Services at 9:00 a.m.

Join us for our enriching Shabbat Sanctuary services led by our dedicated clergy. The service includes heartfelt prayers, a meaningful Torah reading, and an inspiring sermon. It's a beautiful opportunity to connect spiritually and be part of a warm and welcoming community.

ADDITIONAL SHABBAT SERVICES

Sept. 21, Nov. 2,
Nov. 16, Dec. 14,
Jan. 11, Feb. 1,
March 1, April 5,
May 17
at 10:00 a.m.



Shabbat Kulanu Services

Kulanu means “all of us.” Kulanu is a fun, welcoming, and engaging space for our students and families. A musical, interactive, and engaging family service led by Rabbi Evan Susman and Education Director, Dr. Cathy Berkowitz. Shabbat Kulanu provides our youth with opportunities to lead, and gives our families an unforgettable Shabbat experience while being connected to the larger B’nai Torah community. After Shabbat Kulanu, join us for Shabbat kiddush and participate in an engaging family lunch and learn with our educators and clergy.

Every Saturday
from 9:00 a.m.
to 12:00 p.m.



Shabbat Kef (Fun)

Grades K-7 Every Shabbat morning! Drop off your kids while you attend Sanctuary services! Kids will enjoy games and activities and learn a little bit about the week's parsha.

Contact Dr. Cathy Berkowitz at cathy.berkowitz@bnai-torah.org for more information.

November 2,
January 11,
March 1, May 3
at 9:00 a.m.



Tot Shabbat Services

A warm and welcoming Shabbat experience for our youngest children and their families. During this fun and meaningful program, we will come together as a community for a short morning musical tefillah (prayer) service combined with interactive activities for the whole family to enjoy. This is a great opportunity for building community, making joyful memories and connections, and building the foundation for a Jewish home.

For more information, contact Rabbi Susman at rabbi.susman@bnai-torah.org.

Oct 7, Oct 14,
Nov 4, Nov 11,
Dec 2, Dec 9,
Jan 13, Jan 20,
Feb 3, Feb. 10,
March 2, March
9, April 6, April
13, May 4, May 18
from 9:30 a.m.
to 11:00 a.m.



Jewish Renewal Shabbat

Join Rabbi Amy Pessah and Cantorial Soloist Laura Lenes in reNEWing traditional prayers and Torah, discovering how they can touch our daily lives.

Our service features weekly Torah readings, music, and teachings that deepen our connection to the prayer journey. Location: B’nai Torah Congregation

SHABBAT SCHOLAR IN RESIDENCE

December 7

**Shabbat
morning
during services**



Arnold M. Eisen, PhD

Dr. Arnie Eisen, a leading authority on American Judaism, is Chancellor Emeritus of The Jewish Theological Seminary and Professor of Jewish Thought. As Chancellor, he revolutionized the training of religious and lay leaders, emphasizing innovative approaches to making Judaism relevant in a rapidly changing world. Supported by the Mickey & Harold Smith Lecture/Scholar Fund.

January 11

**Shabbat
morning
during services**



Daniel Matt, PhD

Dr. Daniel Matt is a leading scholar of Kabbalah and Jewish mysticism, best known for translating the Zohar: Pritzker Edition. With a PhD from Brandeis, he has taught at the Graduate Theological Union in Berkeley and authored works like *The Essential Kabbalah* and *God and the Big Bang*. Matt's work bridges ancient Jewish mystical teachings with modern spirituality, making him a key figure in his field.

March 1

**Shabbat
morning
during services**



Rabbi Donniel Hartman, PhD

Rabbi Dr. Donniel Hartman is President of the Shalom Hartman Institute in Jerusalem, a scholar of Jewish philosophy, and a leader in modern Jewish thought. He holds a PhD from Hebrew University and is known for promoting Jewish pluralism and ethics. Author of *Putting God Second*, Hartman focuses on bridging divides in Jewish and interfaith communities and frequently lectures on Jewish values and Israeli society. Supported by the Rabbi Marc Liebhaber Scholar in Residence Fund.

**May 30 -
June 1**

**Beginning
Shabbat
Morning**



Adolfo Roitman, PhD

Dr. Adolfo Roitman, born in Buenos Aires, Argentina is an archaeologist and expert in comparative religions. Since 1994, he has been the curator of the Dead Sea Scrolls collection and the director of the Shrine of the Book at the Israel Museum in Jerusalem, where he promoted the platform that displays the Dead Sea Scrolls for the world.

TBD



Rabbi Ariel Burger, PhD

Rabbi Dr. Ariel Burger is the author of *Witness: Lessons from Elie Wiesel's Classroom*. He is the founding director and senior scholar of The Witness Institute, whose mission is to empower emerging leaders, inspired by the life and legacy of Elie Wiesel.

MELTON CLASS SCHEDULE

2024-2025

Register: www.meltonschool.org/boca



OCTOBER CLASSES

Beginning Monday, October 21, 2024

Beyond Borders: The History of Arab-Israeli Conflict

20-week class with Harvey Leven, 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. In Person (Hybrid Available) - **SOLD OUT**

Beginning Monday, October 28, 2024

Newly Updated: Exploring a Forgotten World: A Social History of Medieval Jewry as Revealed in the Cairo Genizah

10-week class with Dr. Sandra Lilienthal, 9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. In Person (Hybrid Available)

The Holocaust as Reflected in Diaries and Memoirs

10-week class with Rabbi Dr. Leon Weissberg, 2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. In Person (Hybrid Available)

The Jewish State: Examining the Jewish Identities of Israelis

10-week class with Dr. Sandra Lilienthal, 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. Zoom only.

Beginning Wednesday, October 30, 2024

Members of the Tribe

At Congregation B'nai Israel
6-week class with Rabbi Robert Silvers, 11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. In Person (Hybrid Available) - **SOLD OUT**

Beginning Thursday, October 31, 2024

New: Jewish Journeys: Collective Memories Through Place and Time

6-week class with Marion Hirschmann, 11:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. In Person (Hybrid Available)



Penina Bredoff



(561)392-8566



melton@bnai-torah.org

NOVEMBER CLASSES

Beginning Thursday, November 7, 2024

Members of the Tribe (In Spanish Only)

6-week class with Rabbi Hector Epelbaum, 10:00 A.M. to 11:30 A.M. Online Only

JANUARY CLASSES

Beginning Thursday, January 9, 2025

New: A History of Hatred: The Ever Presence of Antisemitism

6-week class with Marion Hirschmann, 11:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. In Person (Hybrid Available)
Registration will open in October.

Beginning Monday, January 27, 2025

Newly Updated: Exploring a Forgotten World: A Social History of Medieval Jewry as Revealed in the Cairo Genizah

10-week class with Rabbi Dr. Leon Weissberg, 2:00 P.M. to 3:30 P.M. In Person (Hybrid Available)

Timeless Tales, Modern Sensibilities: A Deep Look at the Books of Esther and Ruth

10-week class with Dr. Sandra Lilienthal, 7:00 P.M. to 8:30 P.M. Online Only

MARCH CLASSES

Beginning Monday, March 3, 2025

New: Timeless Wisdom from the Books of Ecclesiastes, Lamentations, and Song of Songs

10-week class with Dr. Sandra Lilienthal, 9:00 A.M. to 10:30 A.M. Online Only

Beginning Thursday, March 6, 2025

New: Timeless Wisdom from the Books of Ecclesiastes, Lamentations, and Song of Songs

10-week class with Marion Hirschmann, 11:00 A.M. to 12:30 P.M. In Person (Hybrid Available)

SAVE THE DATE

Annual Melton Brunch

Sunday, March 16th at 10:30 a.m.

This is your opportunity to reconnect with fellow alumni, indulge in a delightful brunch, and engage in enriching discussions that continue the legacy of Melton's educational journey.

All Melton classes require advance registration and tuition fees.

Cost per class (including e-book):

- 6-week classes: \$179
- 10-week Scholars classes: \$295
- 20-week Beyond Borders: \$545

Scholarships are available for those who need.

To register, visit:

www.meltonschool.org/boca

If you have questions or concerns, feel free to contact us:

 Penina Bredoff  (561)392-8566

 melton@bnai-torah.org

MORE TO EXPLORE

**First meeting:
Tuesday,
December 10
at 10:30 a.m.**



The Eight Three Club

According to Psalm 90:10, "The span of your life is 70 years, or given the strength, 80 years." It has become customary to celebrate your 82/83rd year with your second (or first) B'nai Mitzvah. It's a time for a new beginning and your B'nai Torah family wants to celebrate with you. Join The Eight Three Club, and together we will get ready for the big day on **Shabbat, March 29th, 2025.**

For more information, please contact Penina Bredoff at penina.bredoff@bnai-torah.org. Register to be part of The Eight Three Club at www.btcboca.org/eightthree.

Ongoing



Support Groups

Bnai Torah Congregation offers weekly caregiver and bereavement support groups as well as other mental health resources and services. For more information or to receive assistance, please contact Liz Singer, Coordinator of Pastoral Care, at liz.singer@bnai-torah.org.

Ongoing



Community Social Engagement Programs

New, exciting, and innovative experiences that provide meaningful opportunities for engagement and connection within our synagogue and the broader South Florida Jewish community.

***Sababa Boca – For 20s and 30s**

Klik Boca – For late 30s to early 50s

Zahava – For 55 plus

Programs Include:

- Social Events including Happy Hours, Sporting Events, Concerts, Outdoor Adventures, Health & Wellness Opportunities and more!
- Enriching Shabbat and Holiday Experiences
- Casual and Fun Informal Gatherings

For more information, contact Elysa Stark at elysa.stark@bnai-torah.org or Rabbi Evan Susman at rabbi.susman@bnai-torah.org.

*The Jewish Federation of South Palm Beach is a supporter of Sababa Boca.

HOLIDAY HIGHLIGHTS



Sukkot

- Date: Sunday, October 20th
- Time: 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.
- Join us for this unique hands-on and interactive Sukkot experience.
- Featuring music, activities, learning opportunities, and fun.
- A family-friendly Sukkot service for all ages that will bring this joyous holy day to life.



Simchat Torah

- Date: Thursday, October 24th
- Time: 7:00 p.m.
- Join us for a fun and festive celebration for adults and children alike, with musical Hakafot, dancing with the Torah, and sweet treats!
- Enjoy live music and dancing with Benji Rafaeli.



Hanukkah

- Date: Thursday, December 26th
- Time: 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.
- Join us for Israeli dancing with Silvio.
- Enjoy desserts and additional fun activities.



Purim

- Date: Sunday, March 9th
- Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- Annual Purim Carnival with games, activities, and fun for the whole family.



Passover

- Date: Sunday, April 13th
- Join us on the second night of Passover for either our Traditional Seder featuring storytelling, song, and a fully catered dinner with fine wines, or the Young Family Seder offering a fun, interactive experience for children.

Yom HaShoah

- Date: Sunday, April 27th
- Time: 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
- On Yom HaShoah, we come together not just in remembrance but in a shared commitment to honor the legacies of those who endured the Holocaust.

Shavuot

- Date: May 30 to June 1st
- Journey back to the era of the Dead Sea Scrolls with Chief Curator Dr. Adolfo Roitman.



Adolph & Rose Levis
Jewish Community Center



Jewish
Book
Council

AUTHOR SERIES

Contact elysa.stark@bnai-torah.org
for more information

Susan Shapiro The Forgiveness Tour

Sept 25, 2:00 p.m.
Free event via
Zoom only
Register at
[www.btcboca.org](http://www.btcboca.org/shapiro)
[/shapiro](http://www.btcboca.org/shapiro)



Yonah Jeremy Bob & Ilan Evyatar Target Teheran

Oct. 8, 12:00 p.m.
Free event via Zoom
only
Register at
[www.btcboca.org](http://www.btcboca.org/tehran)
[/tehran](http://www.btcboca.org/tehran)



Rosa Lowinger Dwell Time*

Nov. 21, 2:00 p.m.
\$18 per person
This event is in
person at B'nai
Torah Congregation
Register at
[www.btcboca.org](http://www.btcboca.org/Lowinger)
[/Lowinger](http://www.btcboca.org/Lowinger)



Abigail Pogrebin & Rabbi Dov Linzer It Takes Two to Torah

Jan. 9, 2:00 p.m.
\$18 per person
This event is in person
at B'nai Torah
Congregation
Register at
[www.btcboca.org](http://www.btcboca.org/takestwo)
[/takestwo](http://www.btcboca.org/takestwo)



Yair Ettinger Frayed

Jan. 14, 2:00 p.m.
Free event via Zoom
only
Register at
[www.btcboca.org](http://www.btcboca.org/frayed)
[/frayed](http://www.btcboca.org/frayed)



Joshua Leifer Tablets Shattered

Jan. 21, 2:00 p.m.
Free event via Zoom only
Register at
[www.btcboca.org](http://www.btcboca.org/leifer)
[/leifer](http://www.btcboca.org/leifer)



Rueben Fenton Goyhood*

April 1, 2:00 p.m.
\$18 per person
This event is in person at
B'nai Torah Congregation
Register at
[www.btcboca.org](http://www.btcboca.org/fenton)
[/fenton](http://www.btcboca.org/fenton)



Margalit Fox The Talented Mrs. Mendelbaum: The Rise and Fall of an American Organized Crime Boss*

April 10, 2:00 p.m.
\$18 per person
This event is in person at
B'nai Torah Congregation
Register at
www.btcboca.org/fox



Rabbi Elliot J. Cosgrove For Such a Time as This: On Being Jewish Today

Date TBA
\$18 per person
This event is in person at
B'nai Torah Congregation
Register at
[www.btcboca.org](http://www.btcboca.org/cosgrove)
[/cosgrove](http://www.btcboca.org/cosgrove)



HEBREW

With Harvey Leven at B'nai Torah Congregation

Email penina.bredoff@bnai-torah.org for more information

Register: www.btcboca.org/hebrewclasses

Hebrew Reading for Beginners

- **Tuesdays, 1:15 to 2:15 p.m. (Starting September 24th for 12 weeks)**
- Learn to read Hebrew letters and prayers. Perfect for those with little or no Hebrew reading skills.
- \$180 for members, \$220 for non-members
- Textbook: "Shalom Hebrew: Simple Steps to Reading Hebrew"



Hebrew Conversation for Beginners I

- **Mondays, 5:45 to 6:45 p.m. (September 23rd for 12 weeks)**
- Enhance your conversation skills. Perfect if you can read Hebrew but are new to speaking. Topics Covered: Present tense structures & 50 common words/phrases
- \$180 for members, \$220 for non-members
- Textbook: "Let's Talk: Modern Hebrew for Teens"



Hebrew Conversation for Beginners II

- **Thursdays, 1 to 2 p.m. (September 19th to December 19th, 10 weeks)**
- This class is designed for those who can read the Hebrew alphabet and have an elementary level of conversational ability. Topics: present tense verb patterns, past tense, read without vowels
- \$150 for members, \$190 for non-members



Hebrew Speakers' Circle - Choog Ivri (for non-natives)

- **Twice a month on Thursdays, 10:45 to 11:45 a.m. (September 19th to May)**
- Join our bi-monthly Hebrew Circle! Share interesting Hebrew articles for group chats. Non-native but proficient Hebrew speakers are welcome.
- \$150 for members, \$190 for non-members



All levels of Hebrew will continue to be offered in January with a minimum number of students enrolled. Contact penina.bredoff@bnai-torah.org for January registration information.

PROGRAMMING CALENDAR



- **Tuesday, October 22:** Supper in the Sukkah
- **Sunday, November 3:** Opening Event Brunch and a Virtual Photo Tour of Ethiopia with Charlotte Temple
- **Sunday, November 17:** Comedy Night featuring "The Funny Old BROADS"
- **Tuesday, December 17:** Light Supper and make your own challah cover with Judaic artist Jeanette Kuvn Oren
- **Sunday, January 5:** PUMP (Paid up Membership Program) – brunch and presentation of Picasso and his Women by Merle Born
- **Saturday, January 25:** Women's League Shabbat
- **Monday, February 10:** Game Day
- **Wednesday, March 5:** Torah Fund Luncheon
- **Tuesday, April 1:** Deli and Trivia Night

For more information, contact Fran Krause, Women's League President, at franleek18@gmail.com.

fjmc

MEN'S CLUB PROGRAMMING CALENDAR

- **October 22 at 6:45 p.m:** Scotch in The Sukkah
- **November 24, December 22, January 12, February 23, March 23, April 27, May 18:** Bagel Bites Breakfast Sunday Speaker Series
- **February 9:** World Wide Wrap
- **April 26 to May 10:** Yom Hashoah Yellow Candle Distribution

For more information, contact Elliot Burns, Men's Club President, at bocaburns@aol.com.

WOMEN'S LEAGUE BOOK CLUB DISCUSSION

The Wolf Hunt by Ayelet Gundar-Goshen

November 12, 2024
7 p.m.
In Person Only



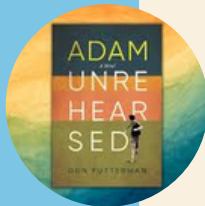
From Miniskirt to Hijab by Jacqueline Sapir

December 10, 2024
7 p.m.
In Person Only



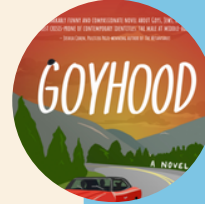
Adam Unrehearsed by Don Futterman

January 14, 2025
7 p.m.
In Person Only



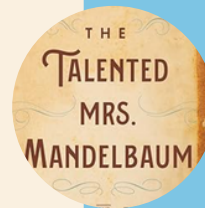
Long Island Compromise by Taffy Brodesser-Akner

February 11, 2025
7 pm
In Person Only



Goyhood by Reuven Fenton

March 11, 2025
7 p.m.
In Person Only



The Talented Mrs. Mandelbaum by Margalit Fox

April 8, 2025
7 p.m.
In Person Only



The Memo by Rachel Dodes and Lauren Mechling

May 13, 2025
7 p.m.
In Person Only



Women's League of B'nai Torah Congregation welcomes all to participate in our Book Club as well as our yearly activities. Women's League membership is not required but appreciated. Inquire at our next event.

For more information, please contact Gail Burack, Book Discussion Leader, at gwburack@comcast.net



Stay active, healthy,
and connected with Hazak's dynamic lineup
of online and in-person classes.

Hazak is endowed by the Dr. Henry and Sonia Faintuch
Senior Programming Fund.



In-Person classes require registration.

Hazak members - Free of charge

Non-Members - \$54/year for all Hazak programming

Questions? Email our Hazak Coordinator at liz.singer@bnai-torah.org

Tuesdays

- **Chair Yoga**
- 1:30 p.m. Online
- INSTRUCTOR-Shayna Skarf
- Chair yoga is a slow, steady, breath-based practice in which you will feel safe but challenged.



Wednesdays

- **Strength and Balance with Angel**
- 10:00 a.m.
- Online
- Low-impact cardio workout in standing and seated positions.



Thursdays

- **Brain Fitness** - 9:30 a.m., Online
- **Breathwork and Mindfulness** - 10:30 a.m.
- **Strength and Balance with Angel** - 1:30 p.m., in person
- **Zumba Gold with Hugo** - 2:30 p.m., in person



Fridays

- **Strength and Balance with Angel**
- 10:00 a.m.
- Online
- Low-impact cardio workout in standing and seated positions.



MERYL & RON GALLATIN TZEDAKAH, LEARNING, AND CHESED PROGRAM.



TLC Director, Summer Faerman

Email summer.faerman@bnai-torah.org for more information

Literacy and Learning

- Learning is key to our value system and is vital for the foundation of personal growth, community connection, and deepening of Jewish values and traditions.
- Homework Help, Reading Buddies Boca Raton Elementary, Manor Academy VPK Reading Readiness, Mindfulness, Life Skills, & Self Care



Food Insecurity and the Unhoused

- *TLC helps the food insecure and unhoused by providing essential resources and support, ensuring that those in need receive compassionate assistance and community care.*
- Family Promise, Sandwich Sundays, Community Showers, Kramer Thanksgiving at Dixie Manor, The Charlie Fund TLC Little Free Pantries, Budget Friendly & Health Conscious Cooking, Supermarket Sweep, Pie it Forward, Night at The Pantry, and much more!



Mitzvah Month

- *At B'nai Torah, every day is considered Mitzvah Day, with November highlighted as Mitzvah Month to emphasize and celebrate our commitment to performing acts of kindness, service, and social impact.*
- In Jacob's Shoes, MDA Blood Drive, Lucky Horse Sanctuary, TLC Shabbat, MSAWI, Community Garden, Havdalah at Equine Assisted Therapies, Playground and Popsicles, Senior Friendly Visiting, Compassionate Care, National Kindness Day, and more.



Holidays

- *TLC hosts a myriad of holiday programs to create meaningful and inclusive experience that foster community engagement and enrich the celebration of traditions.*
- Shabbat, Rosh Hashanah, Sukkot, Trunk or Treat, Thanksgiving, Hanukkah, Christmas (Chinese food and a movie), Tu B'Shevat, Passover, Shavuot



6261 SW 18th Street,
Boca Raton, FL 33433



**THE LILLIAN, PHILIP
AND GERRY COOPERMAN
ACADEMY FOR
ADULT JEWISH LEARNING**

**& B'nai Torah Congregation's
Cultural Arts
Programming**

2024/25

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*Dates and times are subject to change. Please consult our website at www.btcbooca.org for the most updated information or contact the office at 561-392-8566