

Hazon Monthly Report: January 2018

Hi All,

With the start of 2018, Nigel has turned the distribution of the monthly report over to me. While this month is a quieter time for Isabella Freedman, we still ran a number of other programs.

Tu b'shvat highlights the range of programs that we run as the Detroit team brought together activists, poets and musicians to experience building the Tree of Life. Colorado staff partnered with OneTable to put on a community Tu b'Shvat Dinner, which sold out with 50 attendees. And Elan Margulies, Director of Education, lead a staff learning looking at a variety of texts and sources related to trees.

Tu b'shvat also marked the passing of Nigel's father. We are honored to be receiving donations in Gerry's memory. We plan to plant fruit trees at Isabella Freedman in the coming months.

Finally, we are proud that Janna Siller, Adamah Farm Director, Adamah, and multiple Adamah alumni were featured in Hadassah Magazine's January Issue "[My Daughter the Farmer](#)." It is an incredible tribute to the work of these women.

See below for the complete report.

Thanks,

Judith Belasco
Executive Vice President

What You Can Do

- Join us or spread the word about our upcoming retreats:
 - Registration for [Passover](#) is filling up fast. New for Passover 2018, in addition to signing up for just the Seders or last days, you can now add one 1-3 extra days during Chol haMoed, or just come up for Chol haMoed itself.

External: Program Overview and Impact

January Multi-Day Events

This past month we had 600 people visit Isabella Freedman as well as 175 people travel to Israel.

Events	Type	Start Date	End Date	People	People Days
Eshel	Org Retreat	12-Jan	14-Jan	110	330
Hillel Office of Innovation	Org Retreat	19-Jan	21-Jan	100	300
JOFEE Leadership Institute	Hazon Retreat	24-Jan	28-Jan	24	120
Monthly Total (Freedman only)				234	750
2018 to Date				234	750

**People days equals number of people times number of days.
For financial information and comparisons to previous years, please see "Internal" section below*

Eshel

Eshel is an organization doing important work in the world, providing much-needed welcoming space for LGBTQ Orthodox Jews. They have been coming for a winter retreat for many years.

Hillel Office of Innovation

35 college students from across the U.S. discussed topics within Judaism and had an uplifting Shabbat. This was the first time this group has visited Freedman, and they have expressed interest in returning in the future.

JOFEE Leaders Institute Retreat

The opening retreat of the JOFEE Leaders Institute had 23 participants, 5 of who were Hazon staff.. This is a continuation of the collaboration among the "J4" (Pearlstone, Uraban Adamah, Wilderness Torah, Hazon) which is responsible for the JOFEE Network Gathering and the JOFEE Fellowship. These participants represent 11 organizations and a wide diversity of professional roles. They gathered for in-depth learning about Leadership styles and how JOFEE Jewish values/wisdom can be applied in professional situations. This group will continue to interact throughout the year, with another short retreat ahead of the JOFEE Network Gathering.

"Perhaps the most valuable parts were the JOFEE history pieces and a comprehensive look back so that we could collectively move forward" – Anonymous participant

Education, One-Day Events & Regional Work

One-Day Events	Region	Date	People
Nevei Kodsh Tu b'Shvat Camp	Colorado	28-Jan	80
OneTable Tu B'Shvat	Colorado	30-Jan	50
Troubled Water: Screening, Discussion and Action at Shir Tikvah	Detroit	18-Jan	10
Troubled Water: Downtown Synagogue	Detroit	25-Jan	25
Deeper Roots, Wider Branches: Detroit Tub'Shvat	Detroit	30-Jan	75
Seal of Sustainability Occasional All-Site Gathering	Detroit	21-Jan	25
Wildflower Gardening: Shaarey Zedek (seal site)	Detroit	21-Jan	10
MLK Day Volunteering: Adat Shalom (Seal Site)	Detroit	14-Jan	250
Purim Professional Development for Hebrew School Teachers at BJ	New York	22-Jan	15
JTS Teen Summit	New York	28-Jan	17
AUJS Leadership Program	New York	17-Jan	13
MLK Service Day Program	New York	12-Jan	10
Bubble Foundation Talk	New York	6-Jan	6
Bezalel's Workshop: Recycled Glass Kiddush Cups	New York	3-Jan	9
UWS Green Action Circle (at BJ)	New York	18-Jan	7
Food Policy Workshop with Repair the World	New York	30-Jan	10
Recycling Ambassadors BJ Hebrew school class	New York	25-Jan	20
Shabbat Shira a Celebration of Jewish Diversity	New York	27-Jan	125
Monthly Sub Total		18 events	757
2018 Total to Date		18 events	757

Adamah

- Shamu and Rebecca, with Judith, attended the Jewish Community Farming Field Building Initiative at Coastal Roots Farm where they met with other leaders of Jewish farming organizations to identify how to best grow this field and movement.
- We are proud that Janna, Adamah, and multiple Adamah alumni were featured in Hadassah Magazine's January Issue "My Daughter the Farmer."
- We led two successful pickling workshops in NYC- one at John Jay College and one at City College, reaching approximately 60 students.
- In an effort to increase the educational component for visitors to our farm, we are continuing to create beautiful signage.
- We finished processing the fruit from the 2017 season and made the last batch of jam. We rearranged and deep cleaned the Cultural Center (our cooking/prep facility) in preparation for the 2018 season.

Colorado

- **Nevei Kodesh Tu b'Shvat Camp:** Hazon was a guest educator at Nevei Kodesh's religious school camp day for Tu b'Shvat. Becky made brief comments in front of the entire school and parent community (80 people). Then she co-led, with Colorado Advisory Board member Bonnie Houghton, a station on trees that 20 students rotated through. Additionally, Becky consulted with the religious school director to help her come up with ideas and community partners for the event.
- We partnered with OneTable to put on a community Tu b'Shvat Dinner at River and Woods. The event sold out with 50 attendees.
"I've recently been reflecting on the state of OneTable Colorado and I am filled with joy and pride in this community. This event was the epitome of our "all boats rise" vision and I feel so lucky to be in a place that is truly a sum of its parts. We could not be where we are now without our partners and I wanted to make sure you knew the beauty and cohesiveness of this community. For instance, Sarah and Becky's support for me both professionally and emotionally through the process of this arduous event. From helping me get new community members to fill the seats to buying me a cookie when I was overwhelmed with planning, to decorating the room with Tu B'shevat-themed tree. These relationships are real. They make my job incredible and make this community one-of-a-kind. " - Director of OneTable Colorado
- Additionally, in both Denver and Boulder we supported a number of Tu b'Shvat programs by providing resources, educational materials, and staff time to thinking through ideas.

Detroit

- **Troubled Water: Screening, Discussion and Action at Shir Tikvah:** We are taking the edited version of the Water Justice panel (from the 2018 food festival) to homes and congregations in the coming weeks, hosting intimate discussion groups and hosting our colleagues at DJJ, who are providing concrete steps to influence this issue.
- **Troubled Water: Downtown Synagogue:** The second in our series of synagogue and home viewing discussion and action events around water justice. Downtown Synagogue is a Seal Site, and Detroit Jews for Justice provided information on steps for advocacy.
- **Deeper Roots, Wider Branches: Detroit Tu b'Shvat:** Hazon Detroit Region's signature Tu b'Shvat event. Together with The Well, Shir Tikvah, Moishe House, Repair the World, Shaarey Zedek and Jewish

Ferndale we brought together activists, poets and musicians to experience building the Tree of Life, together.

- **Seal of Sustainability Occasional All-Site Gathering:** We held our regular gathering that included clergy, lay leaders, executive directors and educators (green team members all) to share information and to collaborate on taking real steps towards sustainability.
- **Wildflower Gardening: Shaarey Zedek (seal site):** Shaarey Zedek is putting in a wildflower garden as their spring seal project, and Hazon booked ecologist and Hazon consultant John Delisle to run a class on how to do this at Shaarey Zedek and also at home.
- **MLK Day Volunteering: Adat Shalom (Seal Site):** We tabled, leading kids and families through a lesson connecting the Adat Shalom Garden to bees. Participants made healing beeswax lip balm to donate to a Shelter.
- We had to cancel our ice climbing event due to warm weather. Ironic, sad, and scary.

New York

- **Purim Professional Development for Hebrew School Teachers at B'nai Jeshurun:** Elan spoke about Purim through a sustainability/justice perspective by examining the Purim specific mitzvot and how they build and repair the fabric of a community. The theme of the training is to encourage Hebrew School teachers from BJ and a few other area synagogues to explore, with their students, Jewish stories through different perspective and lenses - in particular, the story of Purim.
- **JTS Teen Summit:** Rachel presented an elective "18 Ways to Go Green" at the JTS Teen Social Justice Summit.
- **AUJS Leadership Program:** Nigel and Rachel taught various Hazon-minded texts to a group from the Australian Union for Jewish Students.
- **Repair the World MLK Service Day Program:** Lisa hosted a table at Repair the World's "Action in a Time of Injustice Shabbat Dinner" in Brooklyn. They discussed Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy through conversations about race, faith, equity, and justice.
- **Bubble Foundation Talk:** Elan spoke to fellows at the Bubble Foundation about his work in gardening & environmental education.
- **Bezalel's Workshop: Recycled Glass Kiddush Cups:** Elan led a craft night at his home where people made their own Recycled Glass Kiddush Cups. In addition, people brought their own knitting, drawing, and other art materials. We made "stone soup" for a light evening meal.
- **UWS Green Action Circle (at BJ) :** A group of 9 people representing 7 organizations met to discuss greening in New York-area Jewish organizations. We brainstormed potential next steps for the group and updated each other on current projects.
- **Food Policy Workshop with Repair the World:** We led a workshop on food ethics and creating a food policy for the Repair the World NYC fellows. They are going to use this as a starting point to create new policies and procedures for serving ethical food at events.
- **Recycling Ambassadors BJ Hebrew school class:** We spoke to a Hebrew school class about Judaism and environmental sustainability.
- **Shabbat Shira a Celebration of Jewish Diversity:** 19 partnering organizations and 12 individual collaborators led a cocktail hour followed by a musical havdallah followed by open mic. Lots of fun!

Hazon Seal

- Held an "Installing and Financing Solar" webinar with Jason Loyet of Solar Site Design

- Closed Seal applications for the 2018 Winter cohort and accepted a new cohort (2018 Winter) of 10 sites
- Awarded Seal certification to the first wave of Seal sites who have sent in their renewal forms
- Co-hosted a Green Action Circle meeting on the Upper West Side
- Launched the Hazon Seal of Sustainability Monthly Challenge, with a handful of participants across social media

"It's great to be part of a cohort of organizations working on such different projects. I love hearing from groups all across the country and there's always something I can take away from what they're doing." – B'nai Jeshurun Renewal Application

JOFEE Fellowship

- Cohort two completed closing seminar at Urban Adamah with 16 fellows graduating in the cohort. Collectively they reached over 20,000 participants last year.
- Cohort 3 will have 20 participants, all starting at their placements by February 20. Training will run for 2 weeks, March 6-20 and will include a 3 day immersive backpacking experience as well as training from outside educators from BEETLES and JOLT.
- Program staff are also working with Informing Change to quickly summarize the evaluations from Cohort 2 in preparation for a Jim Joseph Foundation 1 year re-up proposal.

Hakhel

Hakhel has accepted more than 20 communities out of over 40 applicants into its 3rd Cohort. The Hakhel Israel trip's registration is in progress for those communities, to take place in October. Marketing and outreach continues to push forward up through the February 25th Hakhel deadline, and is starting to take root for the 5th international Jewish Intentional Communities Conference that will take place this June in Maryland.

Teva

January is a time for the Teva team to take it slow after months of intense work. Both Frances and Arielle spent the majority of the month on vacation. Arielle returned to participate in the JOFEE Leaders Institute which was quite compelling. The admin team jumped right into planning Spring Teva programming.

Video and News

News

- [The - Urgent - Environmental Agenda for the Jewish People](#) by Yosef I. Abramowitz, *The Jerusalem Post*, January 28, 2018
- [My Daughter, the Farmer](#) by Rahel Musleah, *Hadassah Magazine*, January, 2018
- [Trip to Africa Redefines Family for African-American Rabbi](#) by Isaiah Rothstein, *My Jewish Learning*, January 4, 2018
- [South Jersey residents explore Israel by bicycle](#) by Jayne Jacova Feld, *Jewish Community Voice*, January 3, 2018