

Hazon Monthly Report: February 2018

Hi All,

Tu b'shvat programming led us into the month and the entire staff were together for a two day staff gathering to end the month of February.

The staff gathering was focused on communicating feedback, team building, and planning for 2018. As one staff person said: *"I came away even more impressed by the intentionality of how Hazon is built, the caliber of staff, and the team building."* The gathering ended when we [planted the first seeds](#) of the Adamah season-- 6000 onions seeds.

While the winter provided important planning time at Isabella Freedman, overall, the first two months have been slower than past winters as we held 4 retreats this year (as compared to 10 retreats last year by this time).

We look forward to the snow melting and spring programs to begin.

Thanks,
Judith Belasco
Executive Vice President

What You Can Do

- Join us or spread the word about our upcoming retreats:
 - Registration for [Passover](#) is nearly full. We have some space over Chol HaMoed for a new sub-program we are calling Moed:Festival – three days of arts and culture in the middle of the holiday.
 - Registrations for most of our [other retreats](#) are now open, including Shavuot, the Food Conference, Let My People Sing, Rosh HaShanah, and Sukkahfest.

External: Program Overview and Impact

February Multi-Day Events

This past month we had 47 people visit Isabella Freedman from one Hazon retreat, and also hosted Hazon's staff gathering.

Events	Type	Start Date	End Date	People	People Days
DLTI (Winter)	Hazon Retreat	14-Feb	19-Feb	47	282
Monthly Total				47	282
2018 to Date				281	1,032

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

DLTI (Davenen Leadership Training Institute)

This was the 4th and final week in DLTI's 9th set of 4-week training cohorts. Participants are all Jewish prayer leaders, rabbis and others, who want to deepen and broaden their davenen skills. Registration for DLTI 10 is now open, and they will be back at Isabella Freedman for their first week of training from July 23rd-29th. We had planned on pairing this week-long retreat with a small Torah Yoga retreat (as we have done in the past) but that was unfortunately canceled due to low registration numbers.

Hazon Staff Gathering

All Hazon staff came together for two days of team building and planning for 2018. The first half focused on team-building and communication strategies led by Sarah From, a consultant who has now facilitated a number of Hazon retreats. That was followed by a series of 5-minute presentations with Q&A from 15 different departments across the organization. Other highlights included a lively talent show and time for small group meetings.

"I came away even more impressed by the intentionality of how Hazon is built, the caliber of staff, and the team building."

"The balance was structured vs. non-structured time, team/relationship building vs. practice, which was perfect."

Education, One-Day Events & Regional Work

One-Day Events	Region	Date	People
Tu B'Shvat Seder with CBE	New York	1-Feb	45
Tu B'Shvat Seder with Repair the World NYC	New York	2-Feb	30
Seal Presentation at Town and Village Synagogue	New York	3-Feb	70
Environmental Day 2018 at Rae Kushner HS	New York	8-Feb	180
Compost Day at SAR Academy	New York	9-Feb	100
Limmud NY	New York	16-Feb	500
Brewing Workshop	New York	20-Feb	5
Shabbat Dinner Potluck with Mishkan Minyan	New York	23-Feb	25
Winter Forest Walk and Herbal Tea Workshop	New York	25-Feb	17
Monthly Sub Total		9 events	972
2018 Total to Date		26 events	1,679
2017 Total through February		23 events	1,678

Adamah

- We [planted the first seeds](#) of the season-- 6000 onions that were seeded by Adamah and Hazon staff, will be transplanted by our Spring Adamah fellows, weeded by Summer Adamah fellows, and harvested, cured, stored and eaten by Fall Adamah fellows.
- We had a market & DIY workshops at Limmud NY.
- We attended the New York Fermentation Festival.
- We led a workshop at City College Hillel.
- We currently have 8 fellows registered for Spring Adamah, 12 registered for Summer (a record for this time of year!) and 4 for the Fall. Our application flow is steady!
- We tapped the sugar maples and made the season's first batch of maple syrup!
- We welcomed two new baby goats to our herd.

Colorado

- **Food Festival:** This time of year, a big focus for Colorado is getting ready for our annual Jewish food festival. We have a great event planned and the website has launched. Registrations are starting to flow in, and our volunteers are having a great experience preparing. Hosted in partnership with Milk and Honey Farm at the Boulder JCC, it will be on April 15. Check out coloradojewishfoodfest.com for the details.
- **Rodef Shalom Preschool All-Staff Training:** Sarah has been working with the Educational Director at a Conservative synagogue in Denver, Rodef Shalom, to bring more JOFEE into their community. An all-staff training was scheduled with their preschool. The outcomes were to motivate and get buy-in from teachers that this was a great thing to invest time in, have a garden committee formed, create a shared sense of what success looks like for the first growing season, have teachers leaving with concrete knowledge of lesson plans to incorporate and to feel excited about the upcoming growing season. The day was fantastic, and 100% of the teachers reported that we achieved our outcomes.
- **Mini Grants:** In August 2017 we awarded \$25,000 in mini-grants to 14 JOFEE projects across the Denver/Boulder area. Mid-way progress reports were due this month and all but one grantee submitted by the deadline. Across the board, the projects are moving along smoothly – from the launch of a local, humane, kosher meat co-op, to sustainable dishware for a Chabad, to supporting numerous Jewish farms and gardens, the ripple effect of this program is significant.

"Thank you! I love Hazon and am so thankful for this wonderful grant as well as all other partnerships and support that Hazon has given us. We love you!" – Grant Recipient

"Thank you so very much for your belief in our farm and your continued support as we grow. Without Hazon, we would not be nearly so strong." – Grant Recipient

Detroit

- **Program Advisory Council:** Recruited two new Advisory Council members: Zach Berg from Provisions (a cheese monger and Food Festival supporter) who will develop the Michigan Jewish Professionals in Food group; and Illana Stern (health and wellness expert, Hillel day school mom) who will work with us on young parent/nextGen development
- **Fundraising:** We submitted three LOIs this month - to the Jewish Womens Fund (which was declined), to NFWF through the Save our Great Lakes project (a large potential Seal project), and to the Community Foundation of SE Michigan for a trails project at our partner site, the Oakland Ave Farm.
- **Community Representation:** Ilana attended the monthly meetings of the Detroit Food Policy Council, the Green Task Force of EMEAC (Eastern Michigan Environmental Action Council) and MFF (Michigan Food and Fitness)'s committee on statewide CSA support
- **Quarterly Detroit Professional Development:** We brought in Renee Wallace from Doers Consulting (a community partner) to walk us through our thinking and to train us in Theories of Change -- specifically to be able to plan events with our theory of change in mind. It was a tremendous success!

New York

- **Tu B'Shvat Seder with CBE:** Elan ran a Tu B'Shvat Seder for 45 7th grade students at Congregation Beth Elohim in Brooklyn that focused on environmental and social justice issues.
- **Tu B'Shvat Seder with Repair the World NYC:** Elan ran a Tu B'Shvat Seder with Repair the World for those in their 20's & 30's. The event was on a Friday night and included a lively discussion and text study.

- **Seal Presentation at Town and Village Synagogue:** We presented the Seal of Sustainability award to Town and Village at their Green Shabbat.
- **Environmental Day 2018 at Rae Kushner HS:** Elan participated in the Rae Kushner Academy High School environmental day programming with speakers included Yitz Greenberg. He led a hands-on workshop that taught cheese and butter making while talking about environmental stewardship and Jewish values about taking care of animals.
- **Compost Day at SAR Academy:** Elan and Yosef Giller (from Grow Torah) helped SAR start composting at their school. We did a program for the 5th grade class that taught them about composting and the Jewish values of caring for the earth.
- **Limmud NY:** Four staff attended the Limmud NY Conference (Lisa, Elan, Isaiah, and Arielle) and interacted with participants informally and formally all weekend. Elan taught a brewing and kiddush cup workshop, and a class on trees and Jewish thought. Isaiah taught three classes; on Jewish engagement, race, and diversity. Arielle taught a sourdough class. The hands-on classes were especially big hits. We also tabled all day on Sunday of the Conference and had one of the most popular tables because of our bike blender smoothie-maker. Our table was in a prime location and hundreds of people stopped by all day long. A few Adamah staff and fellows arrived on Monday and sold Adamah products. Their table was also very popular. [Photo Album](#)
- **Brewing Workshop:** Just in time for Purim, Elan lead a homebrewing workshop for those in their 20's& 30's in Brooklyn. Participants learned how to fight winter chills with ginger beer and hard cider!
- **Shabbat Dinner Potluck with Mishkan Minyan:** Elan hosted Mishkan Minyan, a group that meets Friday nights once a month to run egalitarian services and a potluck dinner. He talked about our work at Hazon and the growing New York programming opportunities.
- **Winter Forest Walk and Herbal Tea Workshop:** Elan and Elana Brody (an Adamah alumni) lead a winter tree walk and herbal tea workshop in Brooklyn for adults in their 20's and 30's. While the tree walk was chilly, the participants warmed up at Elana's apartment while learning about herbal medicine.

Hazon Seal

We accepted a new cohort of nine Hazon Seal sites and ran an opening webinar for those sites. We also awarded official Hazon Seal certification to 12 sites.

JOFEE Work

- **JOFEE Leaders:** JLI (JOFEE Leadership Institute) is continuing well with all of our Chevruta groups having met in February and the JLI Educators meeting to continue planning for our upcoming webinars and closing retreat. We are tracking to see the successful completion of this program on budget with significant impact. We are looking forward to our next direct program touch point, a webinar on Personal Ecology on April 24.
- **JOFEE Fellowship:** 18 JOFEE Fellows from Cohort 3 began their work placements with onboarding and orientation before coming to Isabella Freedman for our two week training intensive in March. We also hired a videographer to help put together a brief and compelling video demonstrating the impact of the fellowship on fellows, host organizations, and communities in the first two cohorts.

Hakhel

- Up to this point we have approved with the Ministry for Diaspora Affairs 19 communities, and intend to take in another 25-30 by the end of March.

- In parallel, we are working on the 5th Jewish Intentional Communities Conference, to be held in June at the Pearlstone center. We are also working on two Israel trips for the Fall.
- Rabbi Isaiah Rothstein is leading our efforts to build a resource library that can serve different communities, which now has about 130 different resources.
- Our main challenges, moving forward, are consolidating the consultants team that will support all the new communities, while recruiting people to the conference and trips.

Teva

February is a month of planning and preparation. We have been planning Pesach programming, recruiting for Spring Teva, and interviewed our first two applicants for Fall Teva. Arielle attended Limmud NY to both learn and develop professionally as well as represent Hazon by teaching a sourdough workshop and tabling.

Video and News

News

- [Social Justice Purim Celebration](#), *Detroit Jewish News*, February 22, 2018
- [Hazon: On a Mission to Inspire Sustainable Jewish Communities Through Transformative Programs & Events That Bring People Together](#), by Emily Gerson, *DatingAdvice.com*, February 12, 2018
- [Hillel Commits to Sustainability Initiatives](#), by Sophie Roth-Duquet, *The Chicago Maroon*, Feb 7, 2018
- [Minding The Environment – Hazon Inspires Environmental Change](#), *The Jewish News*, February 1, 2018