

# Hazon Monthly Report: March 2018

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Dear All,

While winter didn't quite end in March, we started running more programs across our regions and at Freedman.

The staff at Freedman, across all departments, worked incredibly hard and thoughtfully throughout our Pesach retreat with 320 people participating for a total of 1,500 person-nights and brought in \$290,000 in revenue – all of which are our best numbers for Pesach on record. (Since Pesach fell mostly in April, we will cover it in full detail next month.)

We also started the next cohort of JOFEE Fellows, one of the strongest groups that we have launched. The program which is now in its third year is more fully developed. A complete report from our outside evaluators is coming next month.

We look forward to more spring days ahead.

Judith Belasco  
Executive Vice President

## What You Can Do

- Join us or spread the word about our upcoming retreats:
  - [Shavuot](#) is only 5 weeks away, and there are already 100 people registered. We are excited to once again offer a Renewal and Open Orthodox prayer option.
  - Registrations for most of our [other retreats](#) are now open, including the Food Conference, Let My People Sing, Rosh HaShanah, and Sukkahfest.
- Participate in the [Hazon Monthly Sustainability Challenge](#) – this month focusing on plastic bags.

## External: Program Overview and Impact

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### March Multi-Day Events

This past month 484 people visited Isabella Freedman from 4 retreats this month. We were closed for the last 10 days of the month to prepare the kitchen and site for Passover.

Events	Type	Start Date	End Date	People	People Days
Kenissa	Hazon Retreat	4-Mar	6-Mar	52	156
JOFEE Fellowship Training	Hazon Retreat	6-Mar	19-Mar	17	238
Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance	Org Retreat	9-Mar	11-Mar	100	300
Kohenet (winter)	Hazon Retreat	12-Mar	18-Mar	34	238
<b>Monthly Total</b>				<b>203</b>	<b>932</b>
<b>2018 to Date</b>				<b>484</b>	<b>1,964</b>

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

## Kenissa

At annual Consultations every March, Kenissa convenes 50+ individuals whose work reflects innovative approaches to Jewish life. People really felt like they were with co-conspirators, people that they felt were struggling with similar organizational barriers, while sharing in similar or parallel visions for their Jewish work. Sid Schwartz runs this program as part of his fiscal sponsorship with Hazon.

## JOFEE Fellowship Training

This was our annual two-week orientation and training for the third cohort of JOFEE Fellows. Overall feedback and reflection showed it was **very** successful. By the numbers: 18 Fellows, 18 faculty teachers (including 10 Hazon staff), 14 days of learning, 2 Shabbats, 2 snow hikes, 1 trip to Eden Village Camp's Maple Sugaring Festival, 1 Kiddush Levana moon-sighting ceremony, and countless niggunn and songs shared and sung.

[Cohort photo](#) | [Video](#)

*"I feel energized, excited, humbled, and filled with gratitude that I was able to share time and space with this incredible group of humans. I have learned a lot from our conversations in and outside of programming and have felt moments of deep connection and joy as we have coalesced into a cohort. I am inspired by the level of knowledge and passion for the JOFEE values, and feel lucky that I get to share in this work with all of them."*

*"I have probably never felt more empowered to go and help build the world we want to see."*

*"This is the single most impactful Jewish experience of my life."*

## Jewish Orthodox Feminist Alliance (JOFA)

This was a first time retreat for JOFA held at Isabella Freedman. Generally, the group holds one large event per year – either a conference or gala – and this was their first shabbaton. The JOFA staff and participants had an incredible experience onsite with 2 Shabbat services, guided hikes, farm exploration (despite the winter conditions), children's programming, afternoon learning sessions, and evening singing.

## Kohenet (Winter)

Kohenet is in our 'partnership' model of programming, which means that it is an independent program that Hazon supports in significant ways. It was born out of Elat Chayyim and is a six-week training program - each cohort attends 6 one-week retreats at Isabella Freedman over 3 years. This last retreat marked the halfway point for the newest cohort of Kohenot in training. This milestone was recognized through a very special initiation process. Additionally, Nancy Wolfson Moche, with the help of Rachel Crane and her team, created a beautiful 13-course symbolic meal signifying the 13 paths of the Shekhinah (Divine Feminine).

## Education, One-Day Events & Regional Work

One-Day Events	Region	Date	People
Intergenerational Rugulah	Colorado		
Mayim Chayim - World Water Day with the Topsy Turvy Bus	Detroit	22-Mar	250
Hillel of Metro Detroit Tailgate Event	Detroit	27-Mar	50
Greening the Detroit Food Policy Summit	Detroit	9-Mar	200
JOFEE Teacher Training - Nirim	Detroit	4-Mar	25
JOFEE Teacher Training - Nirim	Detroit	18-Mar	26
Greening Michigan Limmud	Detroit	11-Mar	450
FJC Leaders Assembly 2018	New York	18-Mar	50
<b>Monthly Sub Total</b>		<b>8 events</b>	<b>1,070</b>

<b>2018 Total to Date</b>	<b>33 events</b>	<b>2,750</b>
<b>2017 Total through March</b>	<b>38 events</b>	<b>3,000</b>

## Adamah

- Janna represented Adamah at the Faith Lands Gathering in California. The broad goal of the gathering was to create a network of interfaith leaders who can help set a trajectory by which large swaths of land owned by religious institutions will be used for sustainable agriculture in the coming generations. Janna learned a lot about how much land is owned by various Christian denominations and how much of that land is currently in the process of being sold due to the decline of religious engagement and thus the closing of many churches, convents and other institutions. The JOFEE world, and Hazon especially, was held up as a model for how to create a movement, theology, community, and advocacy within faith institutions toward sustainable agriculture.
- Shamu represented Adamah at the CT Northeast Organic Farming Association Conference and led a pickle workshop.
- We are getting ready to welcome 9 Spring Adamah fellows while planting seeds, training our apprentices, and recruiting CSA members for the season.

## Colorado

- With the Colorado Jewish Food Fest on April 15th, the bulk of our energy in March is spent preparing for this big annual event. Our partnership with the Boulder JCC, our venue and co-host, continues to hum along strongly. Our volunteers are following through, excellent programming is finalized, delicious menus with our food vendors are in place, and promotion is in full force. As of this writing (more than a week before the event) we already have 200 pre-registered, so we are projecting we will meet or exceed the high end (300) of our goal for participants. We look forward to sharing highlights and impact in next month's report.
- **Intergenerational Rugulah:** This program was the first in a pilot of intergenerational programs being undertaken by a group of 10 Jewish organizations in Denver. The group chose "food" as the theme of the pilot programs and partnered with Hazon to create the programmatic content. The program brought together seniors from Kavod Senior Living and high school students for an afternoon of Rugulah making. They talked about "Kavanah," intention, and what sort of intention they bring to food. The program was a tremendous success, and the content was very well received!
- Sarah Kornhauser and Becky O'Brien presented about the impact of Hazon's work in Colorado to JEWISHcolorado's (Federation) Strategic Grant Making committee. It was a very well received presentation, with lots of interest and follow up questions from the group. We are hopeful that this is a strong step towards building a stronger partnership with JEWISHcolorado and eventually leads to the success of our grant applications. You can view the slide presentation [here](#).

## Detroit

- **Mayim Chayim - World Water Day with the Topsy Turvy Bus:** We took the TT Bus to Lansing for World Water Day events. Michigan Interfaith Power and Light came with us on the bus. We marched, and speakers spoke from the top of the bus. We unfurled a scroll with the names of the Jewish orgs that signed on for Water as a Human right – which means we brought the voice of over 5000 metro Detroit Jews to the event.
- **Hillel of Metro Detroit Tailgate Event:** We joined up with WSU Hillel again this year for their tailgate event, talking about bees and making lip balm.

- **Greening the Detroit Food Policy Summit:** We were the Greening Sponsor of this annual event for Detroit Food Movement people, creating a near zero waste event (water, composting, recycling)
- **JOFEE Teacher Training – Nirim:** Taught a Min H'Aretz lesson to a group of supplemental educators.
- **Greening Michigan Limmud:** We work annually with Limmud to Green the day - providing reusable branded water bottles and fresh water, working with the caterers to provide fresh, local meals, and to create a near zero waste event. We educate participants during lunch at recycling stations too!

## New York

- **FJC Leaders Assembly 2018:** We tabled in the expo hall and presented a 3-hour intensive session with JIFA: "Be the Trend: Food Values in Action" about creating food policies and minimizing food waste at camps. Ramah in the Rockies and Camp Zeke participated in a panel discussion as part of the session.

## Hazon Seal

- We held a Hazon Seal of Sustainability Technology Meeting to plan to upgrade the Seal's technology platform.
- We held several award ceremonies for Seal sites in Colorado, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Michigan.
- We held a first round of consulting calls with 2018 Winter cohort sites.
- We launched the Seal mentorship feature: Seal Shidduch, which connects Seal sites to each other for mentorship and support.

## JOFEE

- **JOFEE Fellowship:** See above regarding Fellowship training.

## Hakhel

- Over the past month Hakhel has absorbed another 25 new communities into the program, after a long vetting process and discussions with the MDA. This new wave also includes communities we work on with our partners, such as Habonim-Dror alumni and Russian speaking communities in Eastern Europe, together with the JDC.
- Registration for the upcoming Jewish Intentional Communities Conference is moving forward as planned, and we expect to close registration by the end of April. Another exciting development in this regard is that MAKOM, the Israeli national council of intentional communities, is showing real interest in sending a serious delegation of leaders to the upcoming JICC, including a few days of learning in NYC before that, similar to what we did with them last year.

## Video and News

### News

- [Nigel Savage and Jeremy Kranowitz Discuss Hazon's Vision for Food and Education](#), By Kyle Rabin, *Ecoentric*, March 29, 2018
- [Colorado Jewish Food Fest Coming to Boulder](#), *Boulder Jewish News*, March 12, 2018