

ALUMNI-LED ELECTIVES II

WFF & WGF/DS ALUMNI INSTITUTE 2024 | TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2024 | 3:30 PM – 4:45 PM

BEARING WITNESS IN THE DIGITAL AGE: DOCUMENTING OCTOBER 7TH

Raquel Ukeles, WGF/DS Class 9

Carnahan

In this session, I'll share reflections on our work to build a vast repository of material documenting the October 7th massacre and its aftermath. First I'll outline the collaborative leadership model that we've developed at the NLI working with dozens of grassroots efforts and cultural institutions to build a joint archive and database. Then I'll raise some challenges around building a historical record in real time and in the face of fundamental debates about truth, justice, and memory.

CURATING UX: INTENTIONAL FUNDRAISING DESIGN, STEWARDSHIP, AND SOLICITATIONS

Graham Hoffman, WFF Class 1 and Erica Frankel, WFF Class 3

Lowrie

UX, or user-experience, is a theory which describes the total aesthetic, social, emotional, moral, and spiritual experience of an individual. Applying this theory to fundraising invites us to thoughtfully curate each interaction — from coffee meetings and events to stewardship and solicitations. Together we will ask: How can the structure of an experience strengthen relationships? You'll leave with several tangible ideas for enlivening your solicitations and fundraising / stewardship strategy (and all you do) by curating UX.

FAILURE!

Rebecca Kaufman, WGF/DS 32

Fitzgerald

You've spent years barreling towards success, winning awards, and rising in your career. In our Wexner world, there are so few opportunities to vulnerably explore failure. In this workshop, you will have a cathartic opportunity to explore, and yes, celebrate(!) failure - the personal, professional and everything in between. You will also walk away equipped to lead this meaningful workshop on failure for your staff team, groups of teens and more.

JEWES, PROGRESSIVES, ANTISEMITISM, AND JEWISH FEAR

Jacob Feinspan, WFF Class 1

Mercer

Is the Left antisemitic? Are Jews unwelcome in progressive spaces? Where do I fit in?

Are you or your friends/congregants/community members asking these questions? My work is at the intersection of the Jewish community and progressive social change and political organizations. Join a conversation to make sense together of what is happening and think about how to apply some of the tenants of leadership that we have learned together in the Wexner community. Anyone who is confused, upset, or trying to understand what is going on with Jews, progressives, antisemitism, and Jewish fear is welcome.

MONEY NARRATIVES: MINING OUR RELATIONSHIPS WITH MONEY FOR NUGGETS OF WISDOM AND AREAS OF GROWTH AND CELEBRATION

Georgette Kennebrae, WGF/DS Class 26

Maclean

Everyone has a relationship with money, whether we acknowledge it, or not. For many people, money remains a taboo topic, but it doesn't have to be. Gather for an open, honest, and personal exploration of our money stories. Explore how familial, societal, religious, cultural, and professional experiences shape, guide, aid, and, at times, hinder our ability to discuss and engage with money in our lives, to save and spend in ways aligned with our values, and to move forward in our financial goals.

MUSSAR AND ECOLOGY

Fred Scherlinder Dobb, WGF/DS Class 6

24 Nassau

Ethical-psycho-spiritual Mussar: amid a climate crisis, or any time, it both goads & guides us to improve, and to live with full meaning & intention. Insights from Mussar thought, plus many key middot/attributes, directly apply to this great challenge of our time -- e.g. anavah/humility (right-sizing our footprint), kavod/honor (toward the most disadvantaged as well as those closest to us); achrayut/responsibility. Like us, it's a work in progress; let's brainstorm, learn, and practice together.

PERILS AND POSSIBILITIES OF ISRAEL EDUCATION AT A RAMAH CAMP: A CASE STUDY

Jill Jacobs, WGF/DS Class 11 and Daniel Olson, WGF/DS Class 27

Henry

A disruptive protest! A controversial t-shirt! One week's events at a Ramah camp last summer, experienced in different ways by Rabbi Jill Jacobs and Dr. Daniel Olson, opened up important conversations about Israel education. Join them to hear two perspectives on this memorable week. After they tell their stories, they will ask each other questions and facilitate a group discussion about what we (could/should) teach when we teach about Israel, an even more important question since October 7th.

QIGONG: CULTIVATING EMBODIED LEADERSHIP

Malkah Binah Klein, WGF/DS 12

Dod

This gentle movement workshop will help us to expand our awareness of the wisdom of our bodies. We will learn practices for clearing anxious energy and for cultivating energetic boundaries to better manage interactions when we feel under threat. Malkah Binah has been on a journey for over 20 years, exploring ways to heal anxiety and depression through embodied and spiritual practices, and she is a certified teacher of Radiant Lotus Women's Qigong. (This workshop is open to all genders).

SOVIET JEWRY MOVEMENT STRATEGIES FOR PRO-ISRAEL MOBILIZING TODAY

Shaul Kelner, WGF/DS 8

Bainbridge

The Soviet Jewry movement was one of the most successful mass mobilizations in Jewish American history. We will cut through the nostalgia to rediscover its mobilization tactics. We will also look at strategies that Soviet Jewish activists in Russia used to fight back against the toxic anti-Zionism that was normalized in Soviet culture. How can these American and Soviet Jewish strategies from an earlier era help us fight for Jewish rights today, in the US, in Israel and around the world?