



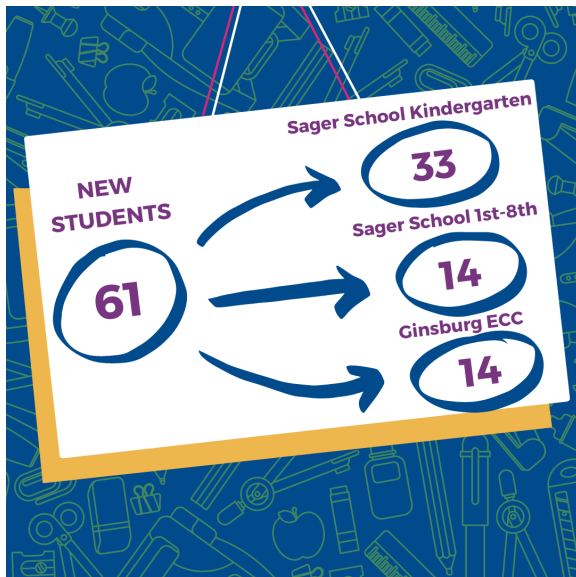
Inside SCHECHTER

August 11, 2023 / 24 Av 5783
Weekly Parshat : Shoftim

Candle lighting: 7:27 PM
Shabbat ends: 8:29 PM

Our community is growing!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW FAMILIES AND TZEVET!



SCHECHTER is proud to present our new faculty and staff for the 2023-2024 school year!

Follow the link below to learn more about each of our new team members:

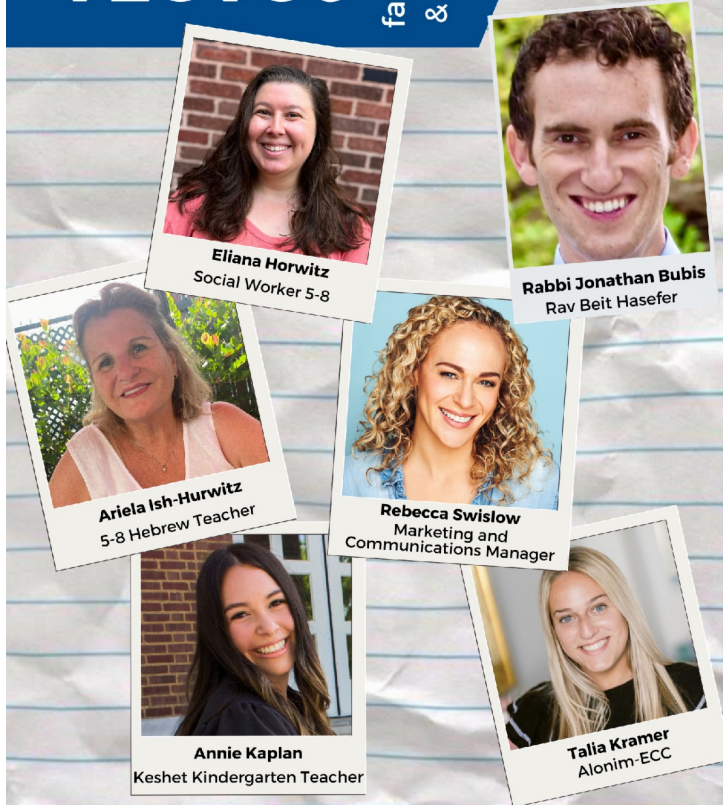
[Read More](#)

WELCOME TO OUR NEW



Tzevet

faculty
& staff



Wait your turn, students — WE have learning to do, too!

Before our students even step foot into school, our faculty is already hitting the ground running! Our *tzevet* embraces the importance of cultivating strong professional relationships and investing in collective learning opportunities.



Faculty Planning Week began with Sager School and Ginsburg ECC *tzevet* gathering in the Beit Knesset for group study of *Modeh Ani* (I give thanks) and a discussion of how implementing a daily gratitude practice can impact our lives.

Highlights of the week included time for teachers to set up their rooms to welcome students, plan together in teams, and enjoy a delicious breakfast in the gym. Our *tzevet*



also explored goals for the year, reviewed professional norms, and discussed how to continue to infuse our core values into our work.

We're proud of our 36 under 36 JUF honorees!

36 UNDER 36

DOUBLE CHAI IN THE CHI

We are bursting with pride to recognize the seven familiar faces on JUF's "Chicago's Jewish 36 Under 36" honoree list for 2023! These talented young adults are living and breathing our Schechter mission, and using their knowledge, skills, and creativity to enrich our community and the world.

[See Full List](#)

We asked each honoree: **How did the values you learned at SCHECHTER shape your professional and personal pursuits?**

Click on the corresponding links to read more about these spectacular young people.



ZAHAVA BERKOWICZ
Wife of Ari Berkowicz (SSDS '01)

"When I married a Schechter alum, I married into an entire Schechter family and community. I see the strong and beautiful identity and Jewish values Schechter infused into everyone.



AUDREY HUTNICK
(SSDS '04)

"I have carried the community, values, and traditions I experienced at Schechter with me across the globe and throughout my various stages of life. When I was traveling solo across

My husband, Ari, has lifelong friends from Schechter, and his time at Schechter nourished his love of Israel, Hebrew, and shaped his Jewish trajectory, both personally and professionally. These foundational experiences also created the shared language, values, and passions that underlie our own relationship and family life.

The connections to the Schechter community have also enriched my own life's work tremendously."

[Learn More](#)



JOSEPH SHEMARIA-RUDOLPH

Husband of Adam Rudolph
(SSDS '07)

"My Mexican Jewish education resonated deeply with Adam's Schechter values. We discovered a shared belief in the power of community, the wisdom that lies in Jewish history, the joy of tradition, and the importance of 'paying it forward.'

These shared values -- especially as a gay couple -- inspire us to champion inclusivity and understanding in both our personal and professional lives."

[Learn More](#)

Australia, I instantly felt connected with the Jewish community and their traditions because of my experiences at Schechter. When I started a business, I found myself tapping into my values that bloomed throughout my grade school years.

And now, as I enter into motherhood, I have begun to explore a supportive Jewish community of young parents and plan to bring traditions I have learned into my own family."

[Learn More](#)



NATE SCHECK

Former Faculty/Staff

"Two overarching ideas come to mind when thinking about the role Schechter has played in my life pursuits.

The first is the incredible level that teachers, administrators, and others operate on. They use best practices and an attention to detail when carrying out any sort of tasks. I feel lucky to have been in this type of environment because it truly makes a difference for students.

The second is the community and culture. Schechter is a special one, and this helped me form a clear vision when developing culture within my professional ventures.

My experience at Schechter has strengthened my commitment to gratitude and giving back, teaching me to lean in to everything in life!"

[Learn More](#)



MAX DAYAN
(SSDS '02)

"Schechter helped me form strong values, follow my ideals, and to live like the famous Herzl quote: "If you will it, it is no dream."

[Learn more](#)



DANNY HOCHBERG
(SSDS '08)

"Schechter was instrumental in shaping how I live Jewishly today. I am proud to say that I live in a kosher home and celebrate Shabbat every week with my family."

[Learn more](#)



BENJAMIN GERSHON
(Keshet '05)

[Learn More](#)

Kavod Awards recognize *tzevet* milestones



Congratulations

to the following members of our *tzevet* for their commitment and length of service to SCHECHTER.

Each individual received professional development funds and a beautiful certificate designed by art teacher Hallie Redman.

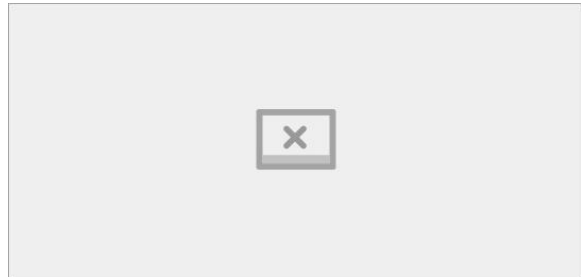
Pictured (left to right):

5 Years: **Rachel Haims**

13 Years: **Shiri Aharonovich, Ilene Brot, and Anita Grobart**

Countdown to the school year on social media

Missed the start of our **Back to School Countdown**? Click on the thumbnail to watch one of our recent videos featuring familiar Schechter faces, and follow us on social media to catch up on what you've been missing!



Kol Hakavod to Jack!

Jack Lawrence (SSDS '24) became a bar mitzvah on July 17th at Robinson's Arch in Jerusalem. Fourteen members of his extended family joined him as he read from *Deuteronomy* on a beautiful morning.

Mazal Tov

to Jack's proud parents, Brooke and Jered Milton (SSDS '96), and Marc and Ania Lawrence; to his loving sisters, Lucy Milton and Allie Lawrence; and to his beloved grandparents, Ethel and Joel Handler and Adrienne and Les Lawrence.



Mazal Tov to the newly engaged couple!

Congratulations to **Jonah Frankel (SSDS '08)** and Emily Weiss on their engagement!

Mazal Tov

to their two pups Tahini and Juniper; to the proud parents, Alan and Kim Frankel, Laura Frankel and Michael Bukowski, and Carol and Michael Weiss; to the joyous siblings, Zach Frankel (SSDS '01) and Laurel Van Allen, Ari Frankel (SSDS '04), Rachelli (SSDS '99) and Mike Soffer, Hannah (SSDS '03) and Brian (SSDS '03) Pogrund, Ari (SSDS '01) and



Zahava Berkowicz, Alison and Adam Optican, and Leah Weiss; to their exuberant nieces and nephews Asher (SSDS '22), Isaac (SSDS '25), Gabriel (SSDS '31), Amiel (SSDS '29), Talia (SSDS '31), Judah, Priya, Abraham, Yakira, Eliana, Ariel, and Danny; to the loving grandparents, Charlene Johnson, Bob Frankel, Ken and Marda Lerner, and Carole Cohen. Remembering at this time Emily's grandparents Sally and Sylvan Rosenfield and Alfred and Eda Weiss, as well as Jonah's grandparents Gunnard Johnson and Sandra Frankel.

Join us for dinner and fun at 2nd Annual Game Night



Don't play a card game?

No problem! Bring the game of your choice to Game Night on September 12th.

Want to learn Canasta?

Sign up for our 3-week beginners course leading up to Game Night. Classes begin on Thursday, August 24th from 7-9pm.

[Register Here](#)

When you support our SCHECHTER raffle, everyone wins!

Our raffle is **LIVE**, and the list of incredible prizes and unique experiences is growing daily!

Winners announced September 12th.

Purchase your tickets below for YOUR chance to win!

ENTER THE SCHECHTER RAFFLE TODAY!

Your support of our raffle helps provide flexible tuition to Schechter students and families... and you have a chance to win amazing prizes!

Eleven \$200

Five \$100

One \$25

WIN AMAZING PRIZES:

- Signed Sports Memorabilia
- Flat Screen TV
- Fitness Classes & Packages
- Catered Shabbat Dinners
- ...AND MUCH MORE!

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