Holocaust Torah Welcomed

Students and staff danced and celebrated the arrival of a Holocaust Torah donated to CJL by Mark Biderman ’67, immediate past chair of the CJL Board of Directors and his wife Wendy. The torah, one of 1,600 scrolls rescued from Czechoslovakia and secured through Memorial Scrolls Trust (MST), was presented to the Kesher Reform community who read from it during recent High Holiday services and will use it year-round.

Challah for Hunger
Baking a Difference

What's cooking at CJL? Most Thursday afternoons in the CJL dining hall you will find a group of dedicated students rolling, braiding and baking challah to raise awareness and money for local food banks and national organizations addressing food insecurity. The freshly baked loaves of challah are sold on Friday in the Frist Student Center or distributed to those who purchased in advance online. Want to send your favorite student a challah? Use our new portal on our website hillel.princeton.edu

In His Words
Amichai Feit '22

The strength of the CJL community was a key factor in my decision to come to Princeton. During my first year, the CJL quickly became a home base for me on campus. It has provided me with a community of Jewish students from every background, opportunities for Jewish learning that enrich my academic studies, and avenues to develop my leadership skills through the CJL Student Board and Tigers for Israel. The fact that the CJL is considered a fun place to be by so many in the broader campus community, and not just by Jewish students, is a testament to the positivity and warmth that the CJL brings to Princeton.
September and October were busy and joyous as CJL students and staff were busy preparing for and celebrating Rosh Hashana, Yom Kippur, Sukkot and Simchat Torah. Student activities leading up to Rosh Hashana included a trip to a local orchard for apple picking, an apples and honey study break, as well as various staff-led learning opportunities. Over 750 students, staff, faculty, family and community members attended CJL’s Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur Orthodox, Conservative and Reform services led by Rabbi Mati, Rabbi Julie, Rabbi Ira and an additional Conservative service led by students. Yom Kippur was ushered in with Selichot services, a lavish Pre-fast holiday meal and culminated with a tasty break-fast complete with bagels and lox. Students stood on the Washington Street bridge as they symbolically tossed their sins into Carnegie Lake for tashlich. Hundreds of students, university staff and faculty ate meals, celebrated Shabbat Under the Stars and learned in CJL’s two large Sukkot festively decorated by the students. The fall holidays ended with amazing energy and enthusiasm as students danced with the torahs on Simchat Torah.

Staff Spotlight: Innovation Fellow
Claire Spaulding

Claire, who joined the CJL staff this summer, grew up in Arlington, VA and studied sociology at Columbia University in New York, where they served as the president of the Reform Jewish student community. Claire is committed to building intentional, inclusive, and justice-oriented Jewish community as the Springboard Innovation Fellow at Princeton. Since joining the CJL this summer, Claire’s projects have included building an online portal for Challah for Hunger, organizing a Trans Torah lunch & learn series, co-teaching the Jewish Learning Fellowship with Rabbi Ira, and launching a design thinking research process on student health and wellness.

Contact Claire at claireks@princeton.edu

Stay Connected
We don’t want you to miss out!

Do we have your most updated information? Do you have CJL friends and family not receiving our emails?

Send updates and new contacts to DOrel@princeton.edu. Also like us on Facebook: (Center for Jewish Life-Hillel at Princeton University) and follow us on Instagram (princeton_cjl)

Students dining in the Sukkah

Fall Holidays at CJL