

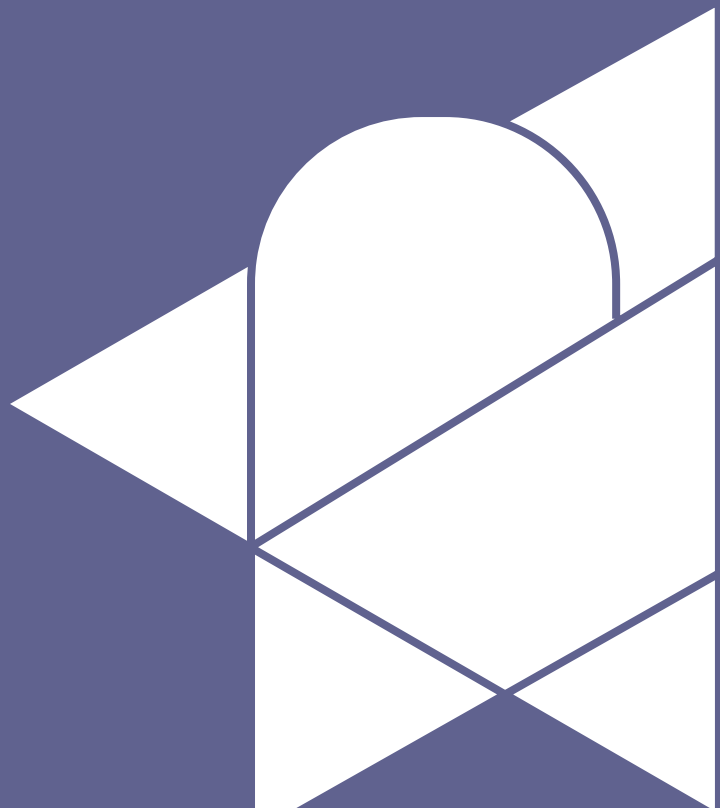


2024

Stockholm, July 1-10, 2024

PARTICIPANTS CATALOGUE

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GREETINGS



We are thrilled to introduce the participants and projects of the 17th annual Paideia Project-Incubator, Europe's longest-running program dedicated to nurturing Jewish life and culture grassroots initiatives across the continent. Since its inception in 2006, it has supported over 300 projects, impacting more than 300,000 individuals.

The Paideia Project-Incubator is specifically designed for activists and innovators working in educational, cultural, heritage, communal, intercultural, and institutional fields. Over a dynamic ten-day period, participants engage in a comprehensive process that guides them from initial concept to full realization. The program features a robust curriculum, including workshops, seminars, individualized tutoring, peer-to-peer feedback sessions, and regular check-ins.

Participants benefit from sessions on project development, fundraising, Jewish content, and more. The incubator also provides valuable social activities to foster connections among peers. Our esteemed staff and guests come from leading organizations in the field of social Jewish entrepreneurship across Europe, Israel, and the US.

We commend the commitment of all participants in this year's program to advancing European Jewish life and culture. Upon completing the program, they will join a vibrant community of nearly 900 fellows from across Europe and beyond who have previously engaged with Paideia's various initiatives.

The Project-Incubator is a joint program organized in cooperation between Paideia – The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden and its sister organization Paideia Folkhögskola.

Barbara Lerner Spectre,
Founding Director of Paideia

Noa Hermele,
Director of Paideia and
Paideia Folkhögskola

Lukasz Gorniok,
Program Director

Agnieszka Baraszko,
Project Manager

Sarah Frey,
Paideia Intern

PAIDEIA

Paideia – The European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden (Paideia) is an academic and applied institute of excellence founded in 2000 through foundational grants from the Swedish Government and the Marianne and Marcus Wallenberg Foundation. The mandate of Paideia is to nurture the renewal of European Jewish culture, to support cross-cultural dialogue and to promote a positive paradigm of minority culture within European societies. Paideia does this through highly intensive educational leadership programs, focusing on in-depth knowledge of Jewish sources and on social entrepreneurship.

Paideia is a non-confessional institution of literacy, innovation and know-how that produces individual leaders and a collective movement of activism. The matrix at Paideia merges academic life with professional and community work, and Jewish culture with the wider European society. Paideia is also the central hub for nurturing social innovation in Jewish Europe and has fostered more new initiatives than any other institution.

During its relatively short period of existence, Paideia has developed into a premier European learning center for Jewish

studies and has been able to produce a strong group of leaders for a new paradigm of European Jewish community, culture, and knowledge. Paideia has since its inception been instrumental in putting Stockholm and Sweden on the map as a hub in European academic Jewish life.

Cornerstones in all of Paideia's undertakings are that European minority culture should build upon inclusiveness, critical thinking, openness and the support of a democratic civil society. It is a unique European institution, which under one roof combines academic teaching with programmatic support to grass roots initiatives and civil society, and the only such institution with a pan-European mission.

24 years after its inception, Paideia has close to 900 program graduates from various programs. The graduates are national and local leaders in education, religion, museums, academia, and community life. Individually and collectively, they are creating a new paradigm of knowledge and activism within Jewish life in Europe, the life that they themselves would like to see.


PAIDEIA PROJECTS

The One-Year Jewish Studies Program is Paideia's core activity dedicated to the study and interdisciplinary interpretation of the textual sources that have served as the wellsprings of Jewish civilization. The curriculum of the One-Year Jewish Studies Program runs chronologically from Torah and Midrash, through Medieval Jewish Philosophy and Responsa Literature to Modern Jewish Philosophy and Literature, with courses taught by prominent scholars, including leading professors from major Israeli, American and European universities.

Since its inception in 2001, the program has graduated close to 600 students from over 40 countries, many of whom have gone on to further their studies and obtained a Ph.D. at different

universities, while others have used their skills and knowledge in societal and cultural endeavors in Europe and its Jewish communities and institutions.

The Paradigm Program is Paideia's program for discussing big ideas and how creating a new paradigm of how to approach Judaism and Jewish identity. During a week in spring, the institute invites 3-4 major contemporary thinkers to discuss three major questions together with 20 young professionals from the US, Europe and Israel. As an offshoot of the program, in 2016 Paideia created facilitation training of the concept – Paradigm Ideas. The training resulted, so far, in close to 60 various sessions in Europe, reaching over 1000 people.

The background image is a composite of two photographs. The left side, which is semi-transparent blue, shows a group of people sitting at white tables in a library or study area. They are engaged in conversation and reading. The right side is a semi-transparent white photograph showing a man and a woman sitting at a table, looking at a book together. The man has a beard and is wearing a dark shirt. The woman has long dark hair and is wearing a dark top. They are in a library setting with bookshelves filled with books in the background.

Paideia Folkhögskola – A Cultural College is Paideia’s sister organization for free adult education. Paideia Folkhögskola is the first cultural collage with a Jewish profile. The Jewish profile of Paideia Folkhögskola is to a large extent reflected in the specialized courses, which are given in fields such as Jewish Studies, Jewish life, history, culture and languages. The courses make Jewish studies and culture available both for the Swedish Jewish minority and for the general public and have proven to contribute greatly to educational possibilities for Jewish topics in Sweden. These courses have since then grown and today Paideia Folkhögskola gives over 50 different courses, with over 1000 enrolled participants.

Paideia Alumni Activities, including the yearly alumni conference, gathering over 100 of Paideia’s graduates from different programs, a micro grant scheme, Paideia Mifgash – a series of one-day learning sessions dedicated to strengthening the presence of Jewish thought and culture at the local and pan-European levels.

PARTICIPANTS



COMMENDING HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE, ALBANIAN 'RIGHTEOUS AMONG NATIONS', PROGRESSING TOWARDS A SAFER FUTURE

During WWII, Albania was one of the only countries in Europe to protect its Jewish community. This project aims to honor the memory of the Holocaust, celebrate the Albanian 'Righteous Among Nations', and promote a safer future. Throughout the year, the educational system in Albania will implement a comprehensive and interdisciplinary curriculum using various methods such as arts and biblical texts. This curriculum will raise awareness and foster critical thinking among students, who will create artistic projects (visual arts, essays, films, posters, etc.) to be presented on the International Day of Holocaust Remembrance (January 27) to the general community.

These events, supported by the Jewish communities, will serve as a basis for dialogue between different communities in Albania, promoting a future of understanding, safety, and engagement in the country. Selected results from the schools' works will be presented on a national level.



ELMIRA GJONAJ, ALBANIA

Elmira is an educator specializing in history, boasting a comprehensive array of qualifications and professional experiences. Her extensive background includes involvement in diverse extracurricular projects, such as training with Yad Vashem. Acknowledged for her notable accomplishments, Elmira holds the distinguished title of "Master Teacher." One of her roles includes her tenure as a coordinator overseeing student governance within educational institutions. She has demonstrated her pedagogical prowess through innovative historical instruction across Albania, Bulgaria, and Macedonia. An active member of the National Teachers' Association, Elmira has shown a strong commitment to educational advancement. Additionally, she has received specialized training in Human Rights.



WORKSHOP SERIES - PSYCHOLOGICAL ASPECTS OF ROYAL COMMITMENT TO JEWISH PROTECTION: CIVIC-DEMOCRATIC COMPETENCE AND DIPLOMACY

The Albanian education system includes the possibility of integrating Holocaust and minority studies into both history and civics curricula. However, there is a lack of trained and up-to-date teachers equipped to meet the changing needs and capture the attention of the new generation of students. Additionally, the existing curriculum is neither rich nor engaging enough.

As a result, youth in Albania miss out on values education, exposure to societal diversity, and a deep historical context. This project aims to address these gaps by offering seminars for students and teacher training programs, as well as developing on-site learning activities at various locations, including synagogues.

Workshops aimed at high school and university students will delve into the civic and economic contributions of Jews, compare historical events with Torah narratives, and analyze King Zog's policies to educate future leaders on multi-perspective history and democratic values. Ultimately, this program will promote democratic values through diversity education for youths, fostering a more inclusive and informed society.

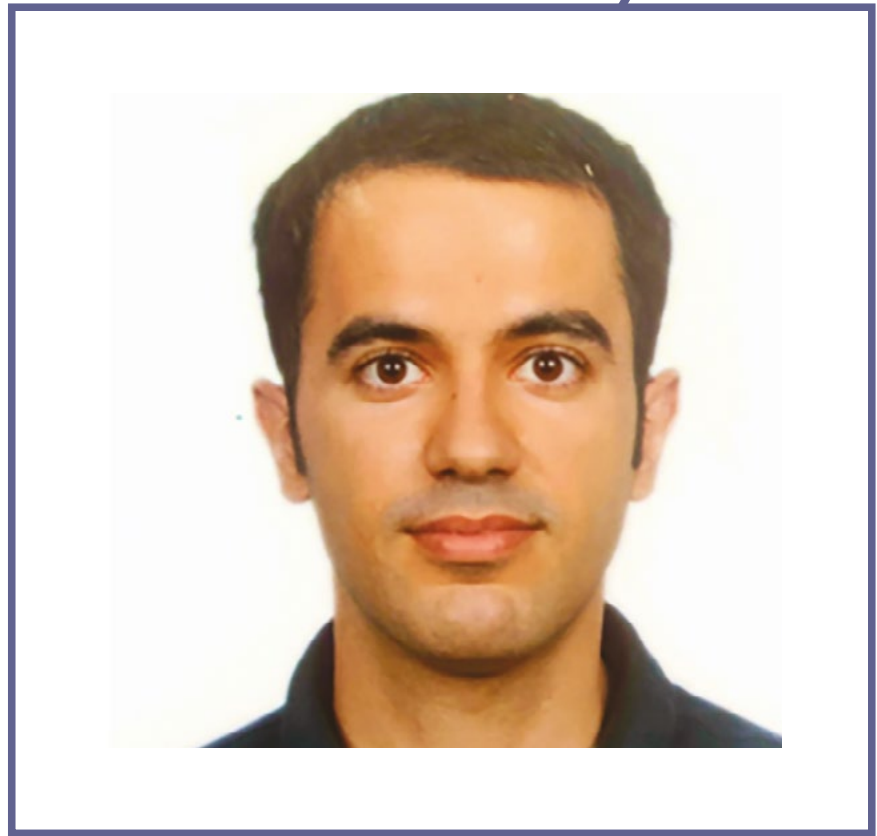
FLORENCA HALILI, ALBANIA

Florenca has extensive experience in the field of pre-university and university education. Currently, she is working as a history lecturer at the University of Elbasan, Aleksander Xhuvani Faculty of Human Sciences, Center for Albanological and Balkan Studies. She is a board member of the Association of Albanian History Teachers (ALBNA). Additionally, she serves as a national trainer for directors and aspirants in the pre-university education system under the Ministry of Education and Sports. She has produced a significant body of research, particularly in the field of education, and has participated in numerous conferences, congresses, and training sessions abroad. She represented Albania in Brussels from March 8-10, 2023, during the European Innovation Days in History Education, contributing to the discussion on how to implement changes in the Albanian curriculum for pre-university education.

JEWISH MOSAIC: UNDERSTANDING JEWISH PLURALISM IN TURKISH

There is very limited open-source information about Judaism and Jewish pluralism available in Turkish. The existing resources do not adequately meet the specific needs of the Turkish-speaking population, leading to misconceptions, false narratives, stereotypes, and prejudices about Judaism and its diverse practices. To address this issue, the project aims at creating an open-source platform that offers comprehensive, accurate information on Judaism and Jewish pluralism. This platform will feature modular activity books, podcasts, and YouTube videos specifically tailored for both Jewish and non-Jewish Turkish audiences.

These resources will be invaluable for university lecturers, students, and journalists in Turkey, fostering a deeper understanding, promoting academic scholarship, and enhancing cultural appreciation of Judaism and Jewish pluralism within the Turkish-speaking community.



JACOB CEKI HAZAN, TURKEY

Jacob Ceki Hazan, originally from Izmir, Turkey, has studied in London, Utrecht, Oxford, Toronto, and Hong Kong. Alongside his academic pursuits, Ceki serves as a project developer and freelance trainer for civil society organizations, focusing on community empowerment and development. In Izmir, he plays an active role in Jewish community affairs. Ceki is particularly interested in the intersection of digitalization and social-emotional learning tools, seeking innovative ways to enhance education and engagement. During his downtime, he enjoys the companionship of his pets and finds solace in the serenity of nature, often with his e-reader.



SHTETL FEST - COMMUNITY PARTY

In recent decades, we have witnessed the development of numerous Jewish cultural festivals of all kinds. However, despite the high quality and relevance of these festivals, we see a lack of meeting and community development spaces for participants and artists, which could promote genuine dialogue, networking opportunities, and connections with the local community.

SHTETL FEST is an international, multi-genre festival celebrating Jewish culture in Brno, featuring more than 100 events organized by the local Jewish Community. Having successfully organized two festivals already, this year we are offering a parallel community program that includes exclusive, non-public events with VIP guests, a community Shabbat dinner, Shacharit in the synagogue, and Havdalah. These activities will offer a deep dive into Jewish traditions, fostering a strong sense of belonging and cultural pride.

This unique experience will not only allow participants to explore different Jewish identities and create new contacts and connections, but also strengthen the bonds within our vibrant community.

IVA KOMÁRKOVÁ, CZECH REPUBLIC

Iva Komárková was born and currently lives in Brno, Czech Republic. She is a graduate of the Faculty of Law at Masaryk University. After her maternity leave, she started working at the Brno Jewish Community as a project manager because it made more sense to her, given her active membership for many years before. Four years ago, she and her team decided to organize an international multi-genre festival of Jewish culture in Brno, which was a huge success for the public and the Jewish communities across the country. This year, she is preparing the 3rd year of the festival, aiming to focus more on the community aspect of this significant event.



BRIDGES OF IDENTITY

As young Greek Jews, we are exploring what it means to be Jewish in today's reality and how this shapes our lives. For too long, we have lacked an environment, as well as the know-how and motivation to explore these ideas that affect our lives without having the answer dictated to us.

To address this need, ENE, the only union in the country dedicated to young Jewish adults, is hosting a 3-day seminar titled "Bridges of Identity". This event will bring together 50 participants from Greece and abroad in Thessaloniki in February 2025. Through interactive workshops utilizing various art forms such as theater, music, and visual arts, participants will get the a rare chance to freely explore their Jewish identities and understand the fundamental elements that define them, an opportunity not often available in their daily lives.

This seminar will inspire participants to build meaningful connections, actively engage in Jewish life, and see the relevance of their Jewish identity in their everyday experiences.



VICTOR MOISSIS, GREECE

Victor Moissis holds a B.A. in elementary education and an M.A. in Jewish Education from the Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Victor currently works as a Jewish educator for the Jewish Community of Larissa, Greece, and he is also involved with ENE, the Jewish Youth of Greece, where he serves as a board member. In his free time, you'll find him writing and recording music in his bedroom or taking pictures of sunsets with his phone.

THE YŪSUF/YOSEF PROJECT



LUCAS ORO HERSHTEIN, GERMANY

Lucas Oro Hershtein, originally from Buenos Aires, has a PhD in Philosophy and MAs in both Philosophy and International Affairs, plus an MBA. His academic journey, driven by his interest in Jewish-Islamic intellectual and spiritual cross-pollinations, has taken him from Argentina to Brazil, Spain, the UK, and Germany. Presently, he is a Research Associate at the Institute for Jewish Philosophy and Religion of the Universität Hamburg. Recently awarded the Marie Curie Postdoctoral Fellowship by the European Union, starting in March 2025, he will join the Institute of Languages and Cultures of the Mediterranean of the CCHS-CSIC in Madrid. Actively engaged in fostering, as an observant Jew, Jewish-Muslim dialogue, Lucas has woven this commitment throughout his academic and personal life.

The escalating cycle of fear and mistrust between Jews and Muslims in Europe not only threatens Jewish life but also fuels radicalization among Muslim youth, undermining the European Union's social cohesion. Current strategies, focused on security and high-level dialogues, are crucial but insufficient on their own.

This proposal introduces a transformative shift from resigned tolerance to engaged coexistence through grassroots interactions. Tailored to diverse audiences based on specific interests, new experiences are designed to initiate sustainable, positive momentum.

With a robust academic background and fifteen years of hands-on experience in Jewish-Muslim engagement, Lucas is uniquely qualified to lead this initiative. His strategy involves developing an interactive, open-source digital map to continuously assess inter-community relations and launching micro-scale projects to empower community change agents.

These efforts aim to transform societal fractures into bonds of enduring partnership and mutual respect, building a resilient European community. The initial step, planned for 2025/2026, is to pilot this approach in Spain with a national version of the map and a collaborative project.

BOKER TOUR – DISCOVER JEWISH EUROPE FROM YOUR LIVING ROOM

Travel is becoming more expensive and less accessible by the day. Young people with fewer resources, elderly individuals who can no longer travel, and people with disabilities should not be prohibited from discovering new places and narratives.

BOKER TOUR is a European Jewish Virtual Tour platform founded in 2024. We offer live walking tours via Zoom with local guides who are committed to sharing their city's unique Jewish history.

BOKER TOUR addresses the need to learn about history in a fun and engaging way using innovative and inclusive technology. Additionally, the digitization of the tour experience is crucial for preserving our history for the future while simultaneously showcasing the experience of European Jewish communities today. We are a group of diverse guides and current community leaders who believe passionately in the power of history-telling to change attitudes, inspire connections, and encourage bridge-building towards a brighter future.



DANI ROTSTEIN, SPAIN

Dani Rotstein is a content producer, entrepreneur, and storyteller. A New Jersey native, Dani Rotstein spent years traveling the world producing advertisements for large commercial firms. When he moved to the Spanish island of Majorca in 2014 to produce TV commercials, he didn't expect there to be much Jewish life there. His surprising discoveries led to his work on the documentary film *Xueta Island: A Hidden History*, for which he is not only a director, but also a subject. He became involved with the local Jewish community, founding *Limud Mallorca* as well as *Jewish Majorca*—a company that offers educational tours of Jewish heritage sites around the island. He lives in Palma with his wife and son.



ŻYDOTEKA

Żydoteka is the first online magazine about Jewish literature in Poland. We are a group of editors, educators, and lovers of Jewish literature who believe in the universal language of culture that can teach us about the lives of others through books. We want to make Jewish stories visible at times when they are being slowly forgotten. As Amos Oz stated, books don't have to be non-fiction to bring the truth.

Żydoteka focuses on promoting Jewish literature by publishing articles and reviews on both traditional and modern books dedicated to children, students, adults, and seniors on a monthly basis. We want to popularize more aspects of the very complex Jewish history and culture by publishing articles about Jewish heritage. We will also organize face to face cultural weekly events in Wrocław, such as the Jewish Book Club. We aim to grow interest in Jewish culture by promoting it in a modern way.

URSZULA RYBICKA, POLAND

Urszula Rybicka is a publicist, reviewer, and educator. She graduated from the University of Wrocław with a Master's Degree in Pedagogy. She is the founder and editor of Żydoteka – the only Polish platform dedicated to Jewish literature on social media, where readers are introduced to the literature and culture of the Jews. She conducts lectures, workshops, and meetings with authors focused on Jewish issues. She also manages the Żydoteka Foundation, which aims to popularize Jewish culture and history. In 2021, she received an honorable mention at the POLIN Award, and her project "Jewish Wrocław" was implemented in the same year as part of the Artistic Scholarship of the Mayor of Wrocław. In 2023, she was awarded a second scholarship, which helped her publish an online ebook titled "Jewish Wrocław: A Guide."

BOOKSURFING

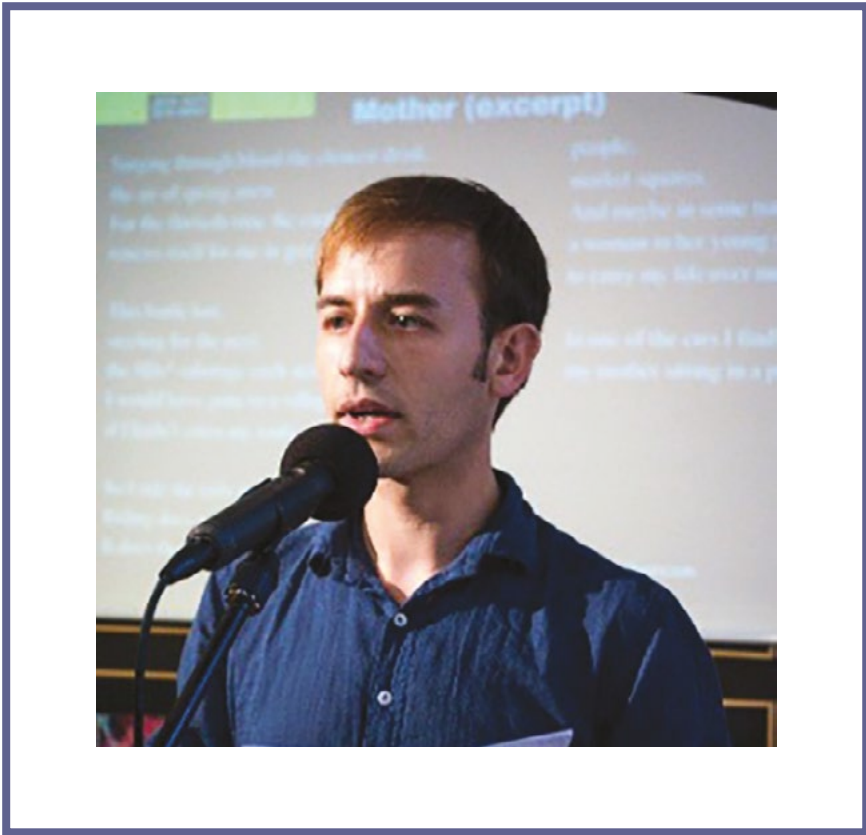
Reading is a solitary activity, and some readers crave spaces where they can meet others who share their passion. BookSurfing fosters relationships between strangers through a shared love of books. In every meetup, up to eight participants share a passage from a book of their choosing related to a theme set by the host, then discuss them with a moderator. In today's polarized world, it's important to create safe spaces for dialogue. BookSurfing exposes participants to books and ideas they might not otherwise encounter.

Mozaika, a Barcelona-based Jewish cultural centre, will host pilot meetups to help heal rifts within the Jewish community. It will then expand through strategic partnerships with other organisations to create a more diverse pool of participants. As BookSurfing spreads and new formats arise (such as podcasts and supersurfs), it will create a network of safe spaces where people can break out of their echo chambers, discover books, and make friends.



PAUL SÁNCHEZ KEIGHLEY, SPAIN

Paul Sánchez Keighley, Barcelona, Spain, studied Journalism at Pompeu Fabra University and after working as a freelance journalist for five years in Israel founded a translation company in Spain, Decody House of Translation, which he currently manages. Paul has been a volunteer, project manager and board member of Mozaika, a Jewish cultural organization in Barcelona. His interests include fiction and political philosophy.



JACOB DANIEL SCHNEIDER, GERMANY

Jake Schneider is a US-born, Berlin-based translator, *Kultur* enthusiast, Yiddish poet, and independent researcher. He serves as the main coordinator of Berlin's Yiddish-speaking social club, Shmues un Vayn, and is one of the event organizers for the group Yiddish.Berlin. Additionally, he delivers presentations on queer Yiddish history and leads walking tours exploring the lives of Yiddish-speaking immigrants and refugees in Berlin's Scheunenviertel neighborhood.

SHMUES UN VAYN

Yiddish classes have been growing in popularity, driven by a fresh curiosity about prewar Jewish culture. Secular learners can suddenly understand the voices of the Ashkenazi past. However, in the twenty-first century, they have few people to speak to. Their Yiddish is too often trapped online or in the classroom.

Shmues un Vayn, literally “conversation and wine,” is dedicated to creating frequent opportunities to socialize in Yiddish on a local level. Since 2022 the grassroots Berlin-based community has met nearly sixty times in bars and other public places, attracting more than a hundred members with diverse ages, biographies, and relationships to the living language. Beyond our regular gatherings in Berlin, we also organize exchanges of ideas with activists from other places and other marginalized cultures, including popups, workshops, and practical guides. The goal is to continue the conversation into the future.

JEWISH ROUTES OF LVIV

The city of Lviv boasts an incredible cultural heritage, including its rich Jewish history. However, we believe that it lacks a youthful and communal approach to exploring and discovering this heritage for both Jewish and non-Jewish audiences. To address this, we are creating attractive, modern, and interactive maps of Jewish sites in Lviv, specifically designed for a younger audience. These maps will be created by young people, for young people. As members of the Lviv Jewish community, we understand the cultural context and the best ways to engage young people. Our approach blends cultural heritage with modern design to appeal to a broader audience. This project will foster a sense of belonging among young Jewish individuals, encouraging them to explore their heritage and engage with the community. Additionally, it will promote Lviv's Jewish cultural heritage to a wider audience, enhancing cultural awareness and appreciation across different communities and generations.



DARIA SHARUN, UKRAINE

Daria Sharun, originally from Kharkiv, Ukraine, studied at Kharkiv National University of Radio Electronics, where she completed both her Bachelor's and Master's degrees in the field of Multimedia Technology. Currently, she works as a graphic designer at a Lithuanian startup called Linkedist, as well as at Hillel. Additionally, she is an activist and volunteer at Hillel. Daria has a passion for embracing new challenges and all aspects of printed and digital design.



JEWISH HISTORY LEARNING LAB: TEACHING, LEARNING, CREATING, INSPIRING

The Jewish History Learning Lab aims to address significant educational gaps regarding Jewish memory and the Holocaust in Italy. Existing projects often lack effective didactic strategies, and Jewish history is notably absent from non-Jewish school curricula. This omission has fostered misunderstandings about Italian Jewish history and the Holocaust over time.

Our project proposes the establishment of a dedicated “Jewish History Learning Lab”, equipped with educational facilities designed for students, teachers, and educators. Here, they can explore Jewish history from pre-1914 to 2023 and delve into the complexities of the Holocaust and its aftermath, all supported by cutting-edge technology for long-term educational impact. By providing comprehensive resources, our initiative empowers students to engage deeply with this history and encourages collaborative projects, exhibitions, lessons, and presentations. This approach not only enriches understanding but also inspires a new generation to actively contribute to Holocaust education and remembrance.

ANTONELLA TIBURZI, ITALY

Antonella Tiburzi studied history at the University “La Sapienza” in Rome, Italy. She works at EduShoah and has been involved in educating about the Holocaust and Jewish culture in Italy. Antonella is interested in inspiring teachers to teach about the Holocaust and Jewish culture by creating innovative strategies and utilizing digital educational tools.

JEWISH LVIV. SHABBAT THROUGH CENTURIES

We know that Jews have lived in Lviv since its foundation in the 13th century. However, that vibrant Jewish world was devastated and largely disappeared during the Holocaust. What changes and adaptations were necessary to ensure survival and continuation?

A short film, "Lviv Shabbat Through the Centuries," produced by Hillel Lviv with the participation of local young adults, both Jewish and non-Jewish, will explore this issue. We will visit the old Jewish streets and look into the houses where Jewish families celebrated Shabbat in different historical periods: Medieval times, the late 19th century, the Soviet period, Independent Ukraine (post-1991), and up to the present day.

This unique creative project will give Jews and non-Jews interested in Lviv and Galicia a glimpse into the challenges of living a Jewish life without a formal Jewish community, as well as the more recent shift from private homes to organized practices led by community organizations.



NATALIYA TOLOK, UKRAINE

Nataliya was born and has always lived in Lviv, in the western part of Ukraine. In 2003, she graduated from Lviv State University of Ivan Franko, majoring in Foreign Languages. Since then, she has worked as a teacher, translator, and tour guide for many years. From 2016 to 2018, she served as an administrator at the Honorary Consulate of Israel in the western region of Ukraine. Additionally, she was the program coordinator at the Israeli Culture Center by the Embassy of Israel in Ukraine from 2017 to 2019. Since November 2018, she has held the position of head of the Jewish youth organization 'Hillel'. Nataliya is actively involved in the preservation of the Jewish historical and cultural heritage of her region, participating in festivals, exhibitions, conferences, performances, films, and more. Since 2019, she has been studying and teaching traditional Jewish dance.



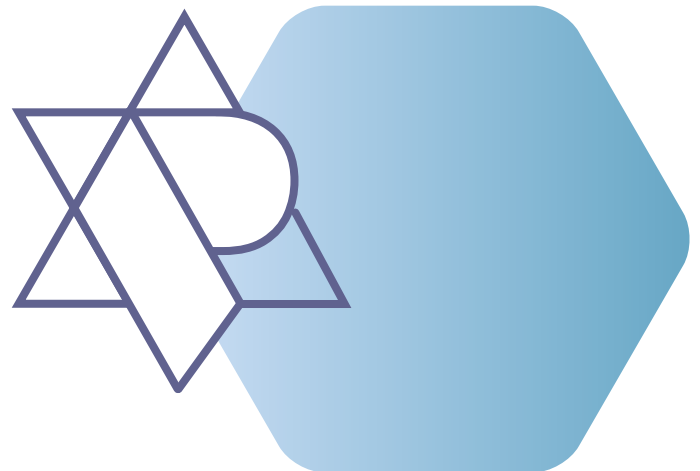
OFER VARDI, HUNGARY

Ofer Vardi, the Founder and Editor-in-Chief of the award-winning cookbook publishing house LunchBox Press, is also an author, editor, journalist, and entrepreneur. He was born in Israel on March 24, 1973, to a family of Hungarian origin and has been residing in Budapest since 2017. Ofer is a member of The Memorial Museum of Hungarian Speaking Jewry society in Israel. In 2010, he was awarded The Pro Cultura Hungarica medal by the government of Hungary for promoting Hungarian culture in Israel through the publication of a best-selling Hungarian Cookbook in Hebrew. From 2020 to 2021, he was involved in writing and editing for Foodish, the culinary department of ANU (Museum of the Jewish People). In 2021, Ofer was honored as the best specialized cookbook publisher in the world at the Gourmand World Cookbook Awards.

WHAT DO JEWS EAT?

What Do Jews Eat? is an online and offline book, comprised of stories and everyday recipes which document and preserve the memories and culinary customs of contemporary European Jewish families. Gastronomy and bringing people together to a shared table is a great way to explore new cultures and ideas, providing a wonderful opportunity to learn about the heritage of the Jewish people. This project could serve as a connecting point for better understanding and coexisting.

This book will be created by LunchBox Press, an award-winning publishing house that has been producing cookbooks and culinary content since 2009. As a promo for the book launch, we would arrange a series of 4 pop-up events in restaurants around Europe, serving the dishes and welcoming non-Jews and Jews alike to have a taste of Jewish life and culture on the continent.



THE HOUSE OF LEV(I)

The House of Lev(i) is an alternative Jewish community hub in Belgrade's former Jewish neighborhood, supporting NGOs and individuals involved in human and minority rights. It fosters Jewish life and education, promotes intercultural activities, and advocates for social justice. This innovative center addresses the needs of Serbia's small Jewish community, which has struggled to remain relevant and engaging to its members.

As an initiative of Haver Srbija, a Jewish educational and activist organization established in 2013, The House of Lev(i) contributes to the development of Jewish life in Serbia and promotes Jewish wisdom, values, and heritage to the broader society. Haver Srbija brings together people from diverse backgrounds and ages, reaching approximately 5,000 individuals annually.

Activities at The House of Lev(i) include workshops, lectures, and exhibitions, as well as interfaith and intercultural gatherings, concerts, and educational dinners. The center is a hub and also offers volunteer opportunities, support groups, and a social bar that employs marginalized groups in society.

House of Lev(i) celebrates and promotes Jewish life while fostering intercultural understanding, ultimately contributing to a more inclusive society.



SONJA VILIČIĆ, SERBIA

Sonja Viličić was born in Subotica, Serbia. She worked for JDC in various positions as an informal Jewish educator, co-running the “Matara”, youth leadership training program of the Rothschild Foundation (Hanadiv) Europe. She is a graduate of the Melton Senior Educators Program at the Hebrew University in Jerusalem, Adaptive Leadership Lab led by the Jewish Agency and is a Schusterman Fellow. Today, Sonja is one of the founders and Executive Director of NGO Haver Srbija whose aims are to bridge diverse communities, confront prejudice and discrimination, and engage in Jewish education and culture. Sonja is also a Jewish educator at the European Union of Jewish Students, facilitator at the MASA Leadership Summit, advisory board member at the Dutch Jewish Humanitarian Fund and volunteer.



TOF ROTTERDAM: UNVEILING JEWISH HERITAGE

Rotterdam, home to 170 nationalities, is uniquely vibrant due to its harbor and outward-facing spirit. The Jewish minority, being the first in Rotterdam, has deeply influenced the city's development, though its traces are often invisible to the untrained eye. TOF Rotterdam aims to reveal this legacy in 2024 by creating a space and collection for exploring and sharing stories of Jewish culture.

Operating within the Depot of Verhalenhuis Belvédère at Boijmans Van Beuningen, TOF's mission is to establish a sustainable, intercultural, living collection showcasing Rotterdam's Jewish heritage. This includes art loans, city archive stories, new works, talks, and programs. The 2024/2025 focus highlights Jewish musicians, traders, and artists who contributed to the city's soul ("neshama"), alongside contemporary narratives. By doing so, TOF will make the rich Jewish legacy of Rotterdam known to its residents and visitors, enriching the city's cultural tapestry.

KÈRÈN VROMEN, NETHERLANDS

Kèrèn Vromen, grew up in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. She hails from a family with Jewish roots spanning across the globe. She graduated last year from Willem de Kooning Academy with honors (BA of Arts), completing her project 'geworteld'/'rooted.' This project delved into her Jewish identity and brought to light the unheard, invisible stories of the Jewish communities in Rotterdam. She studied Leisure & Events Management, focusing on the creative industry, Arts and Culture Management, metropolitan context, and experience design. As a visual artist, that's always her starting, middle, and endpoint. Currently, her work is showcased in the Boijmans depot at the department of Verhalenhuis Belvédère. Her interests include stories, social design, leisure, (fiber) arts, womanhood (in Judaism), folklore, Mikveh, and other rituals/roles of nature.

YALLAGAN.COM

Many Jews feel alienated and are searching for opportunities to meet up, whether on the local scene or while on trips abroad. Navigating the hundreds of events going on simultaneously in any area can be challenging, primarily for security reasons, making it difficult for people to discover them.

Yallagan.com addresses these needs by offering a secure, global platform publishing all types of Jewish events with an easy-to-use search engine for the user. Our uniqueness lies in our global reach, a secure online environment, and constantly updated comprehensive event coverage. We already have a proven track record with over 170 organizations spanning 35 countries and more than 1,500 events published that continue to grow with new organizational members and users.

The impact includes easy and secure access to events, enabling organizations to reach new audiences affordably. This strengthens bonds, increases meet-ups, and fosters positive connections, creating stronger Jewish networks. Our platform is used by Jews of all ages, communities, and organizations, helping to unify and support them through a shared identity and reality.



ALAN MEKIBEL, ISRAEL

Alan Mekibel, born in Tel Aviv to Soviet-born parents, he spent his early years in the Netherlands before moving to Moscow, where he spent 15 years of his life. Attending the Anglo-American School of Moscow, he completed his secondary education there. Afterward, he pursued his undergraduate studies at Syracuse University before transferring to IE Business School in Madrid during his third year. Following his studies, he lived and worked in Madrid for 6 years before spending a year in Berlin. In April of 2023, he made Aliyah. His primary focus is on Yallagana, a full-time project. Additionally, he serves as the Russian-speaking lead at FOA: Fighting Online Antisemitism, where he works as an educator. Furthermore, he contributes part-time to a Russian-speaking Jewish educational initiative known as Magid.



JOY - JEWISH STUDENT UNION: STRENGTHENING THE FUTURE OF THE JEWISH COMMUNITY IN FINLAND

There are around 1,200 Jews in Finland, with approximately 150 aged 18-35 being active participants and around 300 engaged through our community service. JOY's goal is to foster a pluralistic and active Jewish community for all Jewish young adults. As the only organization in Finland solely focused on Jewish young adults, JOY has adopted a grassroots approach to stay grounded and relevant. We are proactive, responsive, and continually assess our organization to better tackle the challenges we face. Our main activities include celebrating Jewish holidays, organizing leadership seminars, and community service through leadership of youth movements and advocacy.

JOY was founded by a group of young adults in Helsinki in 2017. Our current board comprises Jewish students and professionals from all walks of life in Finland.

ALBERTO GUZMAN ABUNDES, FINLAND

Alberto (Beto) Guzman is originally from Mexico. He studied International Relations and has been involved in his Jewish community for around a decade, participating in several projects ranging from starting Moishe House to involvement in the Student Union, Maccabi Tzair, and BBYO. Currently, Beto is focused on working with the next generation and community reactivation.

MEDITATION AND SONG GATHERINGS

In this post-COVID society, many young adults seek wellbeing and spiritual practices through meditation and singing. Yet, Jewish individuals often turn to external traditions due to a lack of awareness about their own tradition. This leads to the loss of the rich Jewish sacred song heritage, and to an alienation of younger generations who could benefit from it.

Posting a recording of the 72 Names of God from the Kabbalistic tradition last year resulted in positive feedback received from people worldwide and sparked the idea of a recorded sacred Jewish songs database that includes both traditional and contemporary songs.

With this database, the project aims to organize community events for Jewish adults, combining meditation and sacred music to foster personal growth, community well-being, and a deeper shared connection to our spiritual heritage.



MAIA STEINBERG, NETHERLANDS

Maia Steinberg is an Uruguayan composer, singer and song&sound healer. Currently based in Europe, she has studied and lived in different cities. Founder of Project A, Maia strives to create change in the world with the power of vocal art, traveling around different countries to collect songs and organizing events, performances and concerts that blend the world of art and healing. She has also created soundtracks for various interdisciplinary projects, many of them having received international prizes.

STAFF AND GUESTS





LIORA ASA

Development Tutor/
Curriculum Builder

Liora, with an M.B.A., University of Haifa (2006), an M.A. International Affairs, George Washington University (1993), and a B.A., University California, Berkeley (1989) has over 20 years of professional experience in project management, training, and Resource Development and Financial Management consulting. Over the past decade, Liora has worked as Resource Development and Financial Management Consultant at Shatil - Israel's leading capacity building center for social change organizations, providing support to hundreds of NGOs throughout the country. Liora is an experienced trainer on a broad array of resource development and financial topics, as a lecturer at the University of Haifa's NGO management program over the past three years, and as a veteran international trainer with the Galilee International Management Institute.



AGNIESZKA BARASZKO

Project Manager

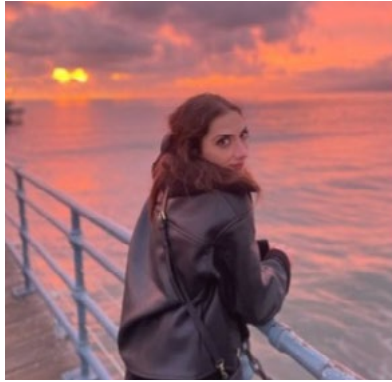
Agnieszka Baraszko born and raised in Gdansk, Poland, is a Project Manager and Recruitment Officer at Paideia - the European Institute for Jewish Studies in Sweden. She works with the One-Year Jewish Study Program, runs Paideia Mifgash Project and is a part of Paideia's PR team. Agnieszka leads Hevruta training sessions and gives lectures on Jewish Folklore. She is Paideia alumna and an active member of Stockholm and Gdansk Jewish Communities. She graduated from University of Warsaw, Jewish Open University in Warsaw and Autonomous University of Madrid. She holds an MA in Spanish literature and language and specializes in translation.



EIRAN DAVIES

Educator at Paideia and Paideia
Folkhögskola

Rabbi Eiran Davies studied for the rabbinate at The Judith Lady Montefiore College at Ramsgate, the rabbinical programme of the Spanish and Portuguese Jews' congregation in London, England. Subsequently, he undertook further study at various institutions in Israel, including Yeshivat Hamivtar in Efrat, Midrash Sephardi in Jerusalem, and the Straus-Amiel rabbinical fellowship. Back in the UK, he worked on a number of innovative projects within the Jewish community, including Grassroots Jews, a non-denominational space for Rosh Hashana and Yom Kippur, Bee the Change, an initiative to encourage urban Jews to become beekeepers, and was a founding partner in Ruchot, a kosher vegetarian community cafe. Eiran now lives in Stockholm with his wife Yael, and their two children.



SARAH FREY

Intern at paideia

Sarah Frey, a musician, singer, and songwriter from Stockholm's Jewish community, holds a BA in Jazz Vocals from the Royal College of Music. Though trained in jazz, her heart beats to the rhythm of pop music. She's navigated freelance music gigs and roles in advertising, showcasing her versatility. Alongside her career, she's pursued studies in art history and cultural management. Currently interning at Paideia with a focus on fundraising, she balances her professional life with family, residing with her husband, a drummer, and their daughter. Los Angeles holds a special place in her heart, serving as her second home where she finds inspiration and indulges in her love for yoga. Sarah Frey's journey is one of creativity, dedication, and a deep-rooted passion for making a difference.



ŁUKASZ GORNIOK

Director of Project-Incubator

Born in Cieszyn, Poland, Łukasz Górniok completed his studies of Political Science and History at Pedagogical University in Krakow, Poland, and Dalarna University College, Sweden. He was also a Krister Stendahl Fellow at Paideia (2008/09). He holds a doctorate in history from Umeå University with the dissertation entitled "Swedish Refugee Policymaking in Transition? Czechoslovak and Polish Jews in Sweden, 1968-1972". In 2012, he received a grant for research at the Institute for the History of Polish Jewry and Israel-Poland Relations at Tel Aviv University. His area of research is modern Jewish history, cultural history, and religion. His articles appeared in the volume *Jewish Migration in Modern Times: The Case of Eastern Europe*, Routledge, 2019, and in the journal *East European Jewish Affairs*. He works as Head of the One-Year Jewish Studies Program and is also the Director of the Paideia Project-Incubator.



ERIK GRIBBE

CFO at Paideia

Erik is the CFO of Paideia and formerly the director of the Paideia Project-Incubator, and has been responsible for a number of other Paideia programs, such as the Paradigm Program, the RF(H)E/Paideia Museum Program, the Alumni Conference and the One Sweden Project. He holds a BA and MA in Business and Economics from the Stockholm School of Economics and ESADE in Spain, and a BA in Liberal Arts from Stockholm University. Prior to joining Paideia in 2007, he has worked for the UNICEF, setting up a municipal statistics office in the Dominican Republic, as a high school teacher, translator and as volunteer at the Red Cross for many years. His previous background is in the performing arts, as a dancer at the Royal Swedish Ballet for ten years.



OLGA LEMPERT

Project Manager at the National Library of Israel

Olga Lempert was born in Vilnius, Lithuania. She has worked in the field of Jewish education for many years and is also a literary translator whose published works include David Grossman's *A Horse Walks into a Bar* and *See Under: Love*, as well as David Fishman's *The Book Smugglers: Partisans, Poets, and the Race to Save Jewish Treasures from the Nazis*. Now living in Israel, she is pursuing an MA in Literary Translation at Bar-Ilan University and working as a project manager for the Gesher L'Europa program at the National Library of Israel, where she is responsible for projects in the fields of culture, heritage, and lifelong learning.



PATRICK LEVY

Project Development Tutor/
Curriculum Builder

Patrick Levy is a counsellor for Human Rights and other non-for-profit organizations and institutions on organizational strategy, peer education and fund raising in Israel and abroad. Patrick initiated Alumot- the Center for the Organization of People with Disabilities in Israel and leads multi-sectoral projects for this community. After having been a teacher in Israel, in Jewish schools in France and the United Kingdom, he served as executive director of national and international non-for-profit organizations. His areas of specialization are pluri-sectoral projects, peer education, support of unfavourised communities and health issues.



NIRIT ROESSLER

Project Development Tutor/
Curriculum Builder

Nirit is an organizational consultant specializing in resource development and strategy. For the past 20 years she has been a director of various training, consulting and mentoring programs and has a vast experience as a trainer, writing guidebooks, and promoting sustainability of NGOs both in Europe and in Israel. Since 2012 she is the Professional Development Director of JCU – Jerusalem Culture Unlimited – a capacity-building program for arts and culture organizations in Jerusalem. Her professional track is vast – including directing special projects in the Tower of David Museum in Jerusalem, the Jerusalem Van Leer Institute, Shatil, the Pradler Resource Development Program and more. Nirit has been with the Paideia Project-Incubator since 2007 and laid the ground for its current format.



BARBARA LERNER SPECTRE

Founding Director of Paideia

Barbara Lerner Spectre is the Founding Director of Paideia. She was formerly on the faculty of the Hartman Institute of Advanced Jewish Studies in Jerusalem, where she taught Jewish Thought. She was among the founders of the Seminary of Judaic Studies in Jerusalem. Her area of research is in models of inference in Christian and Jewish post-Holocaust theology, for which she received a research grant from Yad V'Shem Institute. Barbara's publications include "A Theology of Doubt" (Hebrew) and, together with Noam Zion of the Hartman Institute, the two-volume "A Different Light: The Hannukah Book of Celebration." In 2007, she received the prestigious Max M. Fisher Prize for Jewish Education in the Diaspora and in 2016, the Abraham Geiger Medal. In 2018, she received The King's Medal for her outstanding contribution for Jewish culture in Sweden and beyond.



VICTOR SORENSEN

Project Development Tutor
Curriculum Builder

Victor has grown up and lives in Barcelona. He worked as director of education for the Jewish ATID Community and as director of the CIB (Comunidad Israelita de Barcelona). In 2010, with a group of friends from the Jewish community of Barcelona, he founded the Mozaika Cultural Platform. The Platform became a Jewish Cultural Center (Casa Adret), where all kinds of projects related to Jewish history and culture (Sefer Barcelona- Jewish Book Festival), research or activism (Salam Shalom Barcelona) are developed. Victor currently works as director of the AEPJ (The European Association for the Preservation and Promotion of Jewish Culture and Heritage), where he coordinates the projects of the European Route of Jewish Heritage of the Council of Europe and the European Days of Jewish Culture among other activities.



SCHEDULE

DAY 1 – GETTING STARTED MONDAY, JULY 1

When?	What?	Where?
14:00	Registration	Paideia
15:00	Ice Breakers	
15:30	Welcome and Orientation to the Program	
16:30	Getting to Know Each Other	
17:30	Break	
17:45	Our History - Becoming a Social Idealist	
19:00	Dinner at Paideia	

DAY 2 – MAKING OUR CASE TUESDAY, JULY 2

When?	What?	Where?	
09:00	Frame the Day & Jewish Journey Presentations	Paideia	
09:30	Communicating Your Cause - the Case Statement		
11:00	Break		
11:15	From Idea to Impact		
13:00	Lunch		
14:00	Mentoring Sessions		
15:30	Break		
15:45	Pitch Your Project		
18:00	Walking tour through Jewish Stockholm		
20:00	Dinner		Hermans Restaurant

DAY 3 – FROM IDEA TO IMPACT WEDNESDAY, JULY 3

When?	What?	Where?	
09:00	Frame the Day & Jewish Journey Presentations	Paideia	
09:30	What is Jewish about my project?		
11:00	Break		
11:15	Needs Statement		
13:00	Lunch		
14:00	Look Before you Jump: Mapping the Environment of Our Project (SWOT)		
15:15	Break		
15:30	Mentoring Sessions		
17:00	Outdoor Activities		Djurgården
19:00	Picnic Dinner Outside		

DAY 4 – FROM IDEA TO IMPACT 2 THURSDAY, JULY 4

When?	What?	Where?
09:00	Frame the Day & Jewish Journey Presentations	Paideia
09:30	Using resources for Jewish content	
11:00	Break	
11:15	From Vision to Work Plan	
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Working with Stakeholders/Volunteers	
15:30	Break	
15:45	Free Time (Dinner self-organised)	

DAY 5 – SO WHAT DOES IT TAKE?

FRIDAY, JULY 5

When?	What?	Where?
09:00	Frame the Day & Jewish Journey Presentations	Paideia
09:30	Budgeting Basic - part 1	
11:00	Break	
11:15	Jewish Textual Study	
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Budgeting Basic - part 2	
15:30	Mentoring Sessions	
17:00	Free Time	
18:30	Shabbat Service - Conservative (optional)	
20:00	Shabbat Dinner	Paideia

DAY 6 – SHABBAT: A TIME FOR REST AND CONTEMPLATION DAY 7 – IT'S (ALSO) ABOUT RESOURCES

SATURDAY, JULY 6

When?	What?	Where?
09:15	Shabbat Service - Conservative (optional)	Great Synagogue
09:30	Shabbat Service - Orthodox (optional)	Adat Jeshurun
Free Time		

SUNDAY, JULY 7

When?	What?	Where?
09:00	Frame the Week/End & Jewish Journey Presentations	Paideia
09:30	Introduction to Resource Development	
11:00	Break	
11:15	Foundation reaserch	
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	Community Resources	
15:30	Break	
15:45	Jewish Journey Presentations	
16:15	Social Marketing	
17:45	Mentoring Sessions	
19:00	Dinner & Open Mic Evening	

DAY 8 – BUT IT'S ALL ABOUT PEOPLE AFTER ALL

MONDAY, JULY 8

When?	What?	Where?
09:00	Frame the Day & Jewish Journey Presentations	Paideia
09:30	EU Strategies on Combating Antisemitism	
11:00	Break	
11:15	Jewish Text Study Session	
13:00	Lunch	
14:00	EU Opportunities - Practicalities and Tips	
15:00	Cultivating Donor Relations - Conversation with a Foundation Representative	
16:00	Break	
16:15	Foundation Fundraising Dilemmas	
16:45	Jewish Journey Presentations	
17:15	Mentoring Sessions	
18:45	Free Time (Dinner self-organised)	

DAY 9 – LAST TIPS FOR THE ROAD

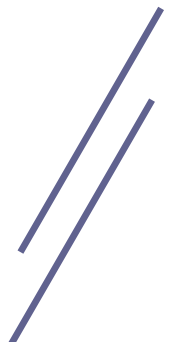
TUESDAY, JULY 9

When?	What?	Where?
09:00	Frame the Day & Jewish Journey Presentations	Paideia
09:30	Parallel Workshops	
11:00	Break	
11:15	Solicitations	
13:15	Lunch	
14:15	So - What's next?	
15:45	Break	
16:00	Mentoring Sessions	
17:30	Walking from Paideia	
18:30	End of Project-Incubator evening	

DAY 10 – CLOSING ONE DOOR, OPENING ANOTHER...

WEDNESDAY, JULY 10

When?	What?	Where?
09:00	Frame the Day & Jewish Journey Presentations	Paideia
09:30	Paideia Support Framework	
10:00	Hatching out of the Incubator	
12:00	Wrap-up and End of the Program	



THANK YOU

Paideia's annual work program is



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