

Elective Descriptions

Elective A

G*d Talk (Shira Kline)

Lord Almighty, King, Ruler, Judge, Master of the Universe, What's your favorite name for G#D? What about Infinite, Divine, Mystery, Presence, Spirit, Source? Whether embracing or wrestling with the One, this elective will explore spiritual language as it reflects who and where we are at now. Interactive exercises and translation in consideration of G!d language that is radically inclusive and universally inviting.

Rhythm Guitar (Noah Aronson)

Being able to play in multiple styles on the guitar starts with your rhythm hand. Come learn new strum patterns and rhythmic 'tricks' to take more ownership of your guitar playing and songleading. *Bring your guitar!*

Inclusion and Audacious Hospitality (Rosalie Boxt)

How do our words, our melodies, our set up and worship messages invite (or exclude) all of the rich diversity in our communities? We will explore ways to include individuals, all of us, with diverse needs. How do we unintentionally exclude or make people feel uncomfortable, and how can we use our worship to help people feel that communal prayer is safe and can be for them. I continue to learn and, am always inspired to, consider the depth of sensitivity we can have in our worship, to enhance prayer for ALL people.

Fretboard Discovery/Finding the Perfect Chord (Zach Singer)

Knowing how to use the entire fretboard as a palette can help you draw people into the songs you teach and further your creativity as a composer and accompanist. We will cover techniques and exercises to help you identify every note on the guitar with ease, play with tensions and extensions, increase your comfort with transpositions using capos and having fun with harmonics. Most important, take home a bunch of gorgeous chord voicings to spice up or enhance the moods you set. *For advanced players comfortable with barre chords, basic knowledge of scale/chord theory and a metronome. Bring your guitar.*

"I wrote a song and I want the world to hear it!" (Dan Nichols)

This workshop will explore tools, techniques, goals, and philosophy for developing impactful recorded music for the North American Jewish music audience. No previous recording experience is necessary to attend.

The “Unknown” Debbie Friedman (Jeff Klepper)

When Debbie (z'l) passed away in 2011, she left behind a treasure trove of unpublished songs and demos on tape. (Some of these were first performed right here at Hava Nashira.) Debbie's tapes were transcribed by Joel Eglash of Transcontinental Music and included in her posthumous songbook, *Sing Unto God - The Debbie Friedman Anthology*. Jeff has chosen his favorites for this repertoire session, based on quality and usability. Expect to come away with some great “newish” songs that you can use with your students, choirs, or in services. You don't need to bring the songbook to camp, but you (or your synagogue) should own it!

Rhythm 'N' Ruach (Ellen Allard)

Open the magical door to the world of Rhythm 'N' Ruach. Drumming, singing, playing rhythm instruments, dancing, waving scarves and ribbons, learning Hebrew words and concepts, yoga poses, stories and meditation all combine to take Jewish learning for young children, parents and grandparents to a whole new level. Come and see what the buzz is all about!

Screens and Slides: The Basics (Adrian Durlister)

Anyone can quickly create a lyrics slide, or a "Visual T'filah" (tm) style slide with Google Slides, PowerPoint, or Keynote. But how do you know what font size, font type, background, spacing will work best in any given setting? What's the best way to break up lyrics? How do you mix English, Hebrew, and transliteration? How can you be both creative and functional? How do you select the right equipment or adapt to the equipment at hand? Explore this and more while adding to your skills and toolkit.

Teaching Songleading to Young Songleaders (Deb Winter)

Do you have a class of young people interested in learning to songlead in your religious school or camp program? If not, you should! Many of us didn't start songleading until adulthood, but today's Jewish music culture is welcoming younger and younger talent each year. Come to learn tips, tricks and activities to turn your leaders of tomorrow into leaders, today!

Elective B

Musical Midrash: Song as Interpretation and Commentary (Ken Chasen)

We are accustomed to studying textual *midrashim*, teachings that expand and extend our traditional biblical and rabbinic words. But songs are an equally effective means for “blooming” our sacred texts. Enjoy hearing a collection of musical midrashim that will open up some of your favorite Jewish teachings in new and beautiful ways!

Camp Choir Chug for Teens (Merri Lovinger Arian)

Begin your Kabbalat Shabbat gathering with that special 2-part choir made up of your High School campers ... You know, the group that the rest of the camp looks up to! Fun melodies, fun arrangements, and a cool resource for bringing additional repertoire into the camp! Songs will be taught by rote, making use of all those camp songleading skills, although music notation will also be available. *[Also applicable for teen and adult volunteer choirs at home]*

Help...I Need the Chords! (Jeff Klepper)

We have all had situations where we want to play a song we've heard but can't because the song is unpublished, or we can't find the chords on-line. Having a “good ear” is helpful, but there are techniques and tricks for figuring out the chords and we will learn them, along with some basic music theory and rules of harmony. If you have a recording of a song you want to learn, we can help you figure out the chords. *This elective is best for intermediate level guitarists, so you should know all the basic chords.*

Games, stories, and Song: Creating Moments of Meaning in Jewish Prayer (Eliana Light)

T'fillah for elementary and middle schoolers can be tough- how do we balance learning the words with finding personal meaning? Short activities, framing devices, and intentional melody choices can do wonders. Come learn how to enhance your *t'fillah* program with whatever resources, time, and talent you have.

Shabbos Zmiros - Sabbath Table Songs (Noah Aronson)

Let's sing through lots of Shabbat table songs both new and old. Come ready to learn and open to sharing some hidden gems with the group.
Bring a recording device!

The Guf Approach (Ellen Allard)

Want to be more effective with engaging audiences in your early childhood music programs? The Guf Approach (guf is the Hebrew word for body and is pronounced “goof”) will help you become more comfortable in your own skin. Learn how to pay closer attention to - and use - the verbal cues, body language, and emotional temperature of the room from the moment you take the stage (or classroom or bima). Through body movement, vocal exercises, theater games and demos, you'll grow more confident in your skills as you bring greater clarity, focus and success to your next presentation.

Creating Worship Experiences with Teens for Your Community (Alan Goodis)

Tired of suffering through the same old teen led service...you know the endless carousel of three sentence readings followed up with an unenthusiastic "please rise"? In my 10+ years of working with countless groups of teens around the country I have learned some valuable tools for dreaming, planning, developing and executing powerful teen led worship experiences that serve the needs of the entire community. Join me and I will share some best practices for involving teens with diverse skills, interests and engagement with Judaism to create meaningful worship experiences. *The tools in this elective are applicable to those who work with teens at temples, summer camps, youth groups and more!*

Drum Circles for Squares (Josh Nelson)

Discover the use of rhythm as a community building exercise. Learn new rhythms and explore ways to use percussion as an energy builder and a teaching tool. Gain a better understanding of the effective use of percussion instruments in a music environment and learn the best methods for coordinating and implementing the drum circle model.

Screens and Slides: Masterclass (Ross Wolman)

For the experienced slide makers, bring your slides and computer to explore best practices. We will learn from each other and discuss how to achieve program/service goals in various settings.