



Transforming Jewish Learning After School

A Peer-to-Peer Conference for Educators working in Jewish After School Settings

November 17-19, 2019

We want to hear your voice!

Connect, learn, and add your voice to the network of visionaries, leaders, and educators defining Jewish learning after school.

Voices from the Field, a conference focused on transforming Jewish learning after school, offers a peer-to-peer approach to innovation sharing in Jewish education. Too often, innovation sharing has been the role of central agencies and national networks while educators on the front lines are left to read about it, wonder about its rationale, and question its application. *Voices from the Field* provides educators a forum to add their voices to the network of visionaries redefining Jewish learning after school and works to empower, professionalize and elevate the field of Jewish education .

Voices from the Field is a space for those working directly with learners to share new and innovative approaches and learn from one another. Join Jewish educators from throughout North America in a celebration of innovative and effective practices, pedagogies, and programs in afterschool settings. We invite presenters to explore programmatic and pedagogical innovations, effective approaches to leadership and administration of after school programs, and expanding engagement beyond youth participants. Together we will wonder, imagine, and learn as a community of educators dedicated to the most populated educational domain in Jewish education in North America - after school.

Taking place in Berkeley, CA, long known as a center of innovation and inclusivity, this two-day convening of educators, thought leaders, and innovators is dedicated to the revitalization of Jewish learning after school. We'll share our expertise as learning designers and facilitators and learn together as colleagues. Plenary panel discussions on the most pressing issues in supplemental or afterschool Jewish learning will shine a light on exciting new approaches. Break out sessions will focus on specific challenges in the field and new approaches to meeting those challenges will offer practical and applicable suggestions and learnings that can be taken directly back to our programs. Whether your name appears in the formal conference program or not, every participant has the potential to make significant contributions.

CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

We welcome presentation proposals from all participants (as individuals, teams, or cross-program groups/panels) and invite creative conference proposals on any relevant topic in either of the following session formats:

- ❑ **Workshop Sessions (60 minutes)** focus on a specific topic of interest to a significant fraction of conference attendees. These sessions should include ideas, best practices, strategies, lessons learned, activities, models, etc. that attendees can use in their own settings. These 60 minute sessions should be carefully prepared in advance.
- ❑ **Flash Sessions (15 minutes)** offer opportunities to share something you are excited about related to Jewish learning after school. Whether it's a first-hand story, a lightning talk, a short video clip, a performance piece, an evaluation finding, a hands-on interactive, or something else! We'll do our best to work into the schedule.

Presentations might focus on topics such as:

- Programmatic innovations (e.g. Lego Beit Midrash, Hebrew and Cooking, Parsha and Play)
- Innovations in pedagogy, (e.g. Innovations in Hebrew Immersion, PBL for Afterschool)
- Approaches to leadership and administration, (e.g. New strategies for data collection, Innovations in email outreach)
- Expanding engagement. (e.g. Working with the entire family, Engaging funders as program recipients)

To submit a session proposal, [fill out this proposal submission form](#).

SELECTION PROCESS

The selection of sessions for this conference will be made using a 2-step process using the following criteria.

1. Each presentation submission will be reviewed by multiple peer reviewers. If you are interested in becoming a peer reviewer for this conference or want to nominate someone else, [please complete this nomination form](#). Peer reviewers will be asked to review session proposals using the following criteria:
 - a. potential interest to program participants
 - b. degree of creativity/innovation
 - c. evidence of effectiveness
 - d. program participants will find this inspiring/provocative
 - e. program participants will take away something practical for their setting

2. The program committee will select proposals based on a combination of
 - The assessment of the peer reviewers of the strength of the proposal relative to the criteria. The committee will be looking to ensure that proposals have high scores on criteria a (from the list above); and on at least one of b & c (from the list above) and at least one of d & e (from the list above).
 - Ensuring the inclusion of diverse (regional, content focus) perspectives and content.
 - Fit within the framework of this conference schedule.