

ANNUAL REPORT 2022-2023

*Inspiring every student to make an eduring
committment to Jewish Life, Learning & Israel*



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Having been a campus professional for 10 years, and on campuses for 16 of the last 20, I have seen and been part of many exciting and trying moments. The 2022-2023 academic year, as a whole, was an exciting one.



While last year saw the end of pandemic restrictions on campus, this year was the first time we really started seeing students find connections and a regular home here at Hillel again. Each day I was thrilled by the number of students who chose to make the Johnson Family Center for Jewish Student Life their space, and each night I was amazed by those who stayed for Hillel learning fellowships, events, Shabbat, or just to be with friends.

Throughout this year's Annual Report I hope you will see all of the joy, learning, and connections that our community continues to offer Minnesota college students, and that they continue to create for one-another. I hope that, like me, you take great pride in knowing that Minnesota Hillel continues to be one of the best places in the country for Jewish college students.

BENZIE KAPLAN

BOARD PRESIDENT



It has been a privilege to serve as Board President this past year. I am grateful to all the board members, donors, and staff who have given their time, insights, knowledge, hearts, recommendations, and dollars in showing their commitment to this pillar in the Jewish and University communities. During this past year I was most proud to send a full Birthright bus to Israel for the first time in four years, and to see our students and staff implement a brand-new online event platform to help broaden Hillel's reach. On top of these milestones, 450+ attendees at our first Maroon & Gold Shabbat back in person since 2019, we finished as one of the top Hillel's during the BIG Ten Fundraising Challenge, 300+ community members joined us for Homecoming Shabbat, and the list goes on. Most importantly though, Hillel has once again engaged hundreds of students in deep and meaningful ways during the 2022-2023 academic year.

In the coming year we hope to expand on this work by focusing on our strategic plan goals of reaching more students across the state, increasing and sustaining our fundraising efforts, putting more attention on long-term funding and endowment growth, and expanding the number of students we reach on the U of M campus. These are challenging times to be a Jewish student on campus and we know Hillel plays an important role in ensuring Minnesota continues to be one of the best places to be a Jewish college student!

PHIL KIBORT

HILLEL STAFF

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BENJIE KAPLAN**

**ASSISTANT DIRECTOR-
MACKENZIE PETERS**

**SENIOR JEWISH EDUCATOR-
RABBI JUSTIN HELD**

**DEVELOPMENT DIRECTOR-
HAYLEE SAXON**

**DIRECTOR OF JEWISH STUDENT LIFE-
POLLY LEHMAN**

**ADMINISTRATIVE & LOGISTICS COORDINATOR-
ELIE SIMON**



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STUDENT BOARD

Student President- Carlie Sachs

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SHABBAT & HOLIDAYS



"SHARING THE SHABBAT EXPERIENCE WITH THE HILLEL COMMUNITY CREATES A MEANINGFUL CLOSURE EACH WEEK. I FEEL COMFORTABLE INVITING MY FRIENDS AND ROOMMATES INTO THE HILLEL BUILDING TO EXPERIENCE THE SABBATH. I AM SO THANKFUL TO HAVE THE TIME TO SLOW DOWN"



Shabbat & Holiday Highlights

Celebrating Homecoming Shabbat in September with 300+ students, alumni, community members & friends.

Piloting a new student-led Shabbat learning fellowship- an 8-part series exploring Jewish prayer.

Expanding our challah braiding to 25+ parents & alumni coming together throughout the year to braid & bake home-made challah for Shabbat.

Inspiring students to host Shabbat in their own homes on campus, 125 students participated in "Shabbat Around the U".

Ending the year with our first Maroon & Gold Shabbat back in person in 4 years, celebrating 100 years of the Hillel movement with 400+ members of our Hillel community.

WEEKLY SHABBAT EXPERIENCE

HIGH HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING

FREE PASSOVER MEAL PLANS

STUDENT-LED SERVICES

INTERFAITH PROGRAMMING

"I am passionate about continuing to be a leader in the Shabbat space at Hillel. I look forward to seeing Minnesota Hillel continuously grow and prosper before I leave this place behind for the next generation of students"



1,800+

Shabbat meals served this year



400+

Attendees at our annual Maroon & Gold Shabbat celebration



18

Student-led Jewish holiday programs

SOCIAL ACTION



"THIS YEAR I PARTICIPATED IN THE TIKKUN OLAM LEARNING FELLOWSHIP. THIS OPPORTUNITY ALLOWED ME TO GAIN NEW PERSPECTIVES REGARDING ACCESSIBILITY IN THE JEWISH COMMUNITY. I AM GRATEFUL FOR THIS NEW COMMUNITY OF PEERS THAT WAS DEVELOPED DURING THE FELLOWSHIP"

Social Action Highlights

Hosting Second Gentleman Doug Emhoff at Minnesota Hillel during his DLF tour and hearing him speak to students & community members about the power of voting through a Jewish lens.

Offering a Tikkun Olam Jewish Learning Fellowship- an 8-part series exploring different aspects of social action & social justice in the Jewish community.

Working with student leaders to host an upcycling thrift event, a program where students created a free thrift store at Hillel and donated any unclaimed items.

Celebrating a student's Bat Mitzvah experience at Hillel with a social action project, making animals toys for a local animal shelter.



SOCIAL ACTION FELLOWSHIP

MENTAL HEALTH & WELLNESS

WEEKLY YOGA IN THE GYM

DESTRESS EVENTS

TIKKUN OLAM

"AS A MEMBER OF THE SOCIAL ACTION TEAM THIS PAST YEAR, I WAS GIVEN THE SUPPORT AND RESOURCES NECESSARY TO EXPLORE THE WAYS IN WHICH I CAN EMPLOY MY PASSIONS AND INTERESTS AS A MEANS FOR SERVING AND HELPING OTHERS"



20

Tikkun Olam fellowship participants



230

Attendees for social action programming



85

Weekly Yoga wellness attendees

JEWISH LEARNING



"I WANTED TO HAVE MY BAT MITZVAH WITH HILLEL BECAUSE I DIDN'T HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO DO IT WHEN I WAS 13 SINCE I DIDN'T FEEL CONNECTED TO MY JUDAISM BACK THEN. IT WAS SPECIAL TO ME BECAUSE I WAS ABLE TO PICK A JEWISH NAME, MALKA, WHICH CONNECTED ME TO MY MOM. HER NAME IS REGINA AND BOTH NAMES MEAN QUEEN!"

Jewish Learning Highlights

Working with AEPi and SAMMY leadership to host monthly Jewish learning with fraternity brothers.

Hosting a monthly gathering for seniors to explore different topics such as Jewish life after graduation, bringing Judaism into your home, & what comes next in their Jewish journeys.

Working with JCRC to bring together a group of interfaith community members, student leaders & University faculty to Washington D.C. to experience a day of learning and dialogue at the United States Holocaust Museum.

Celebrating 8 student B'nai Mitzvah Experiences, 7 that were hosted in Israel and 1 that was put on at Minnesota Hillel.



SENIOR SEMINAR EXPERIENCE

HIGH HOLIDAY PROGRAMMING

FREE PASSOVER MEALS PLANS

STUDENT-LED SERVICES

INTERFAITH PROGRAMMING

"HILLEL HAS BEEN AN INVALUABLE SOURCE OF GUIDANCE AND SUPPORT THROUGHOUT MY CONVERSION TO JUDAISM AND JEWISH LEARNING. THE VIBRANT AND INCLUSIVE COMMUNITY HAS WELCOMED ME AND PROVIDED OPPORTUNITIES TO EXPLORE JUDAISM, CONNECT WITH FELLOW STUDENTS ON A SIMILAR PATH, AND ENGAGE IN MEANINGFUL DISCUSSIONS ABOUT FAITH AND TRADITION"



65

Jewish Learning
Fellowship Graduates



8

Student Bar/Bat Mitzvah
Experiences



2

Student Mikveh
Experiences

SOCIAL PILLAR



"HILLEL HAS GIVEN ME A SAFE SPACE FOR THE PAST THREE YEARS AND I WANT TO GET INVOLVED IN ANYWAY I CAN TO HELP FUTURE STUDENTS FEEL THE SAME WAY"



Social Highlights

Hosting a weekly Friday bagel nosh, welcoming dozens of students each Friday to close the week with friends at Hillel.

Launching Hillel's new event platform, MyHillel. This new platform inspired 35 student leaders to host 75+ events for their peers and engage the entire campus community in Jewish life on campus. These programs had 2,000+ event registrations.

Closing the end of the school year with a special senior graduation brunch with students and families.

Working with the new Young Alum & Grad Student Council to put on events throughout the year and engage over 85 individuals in special programming.

WEEKLY BAGEL NOSH

PICK-UP BASKETBALL

STUDY GROUP SPACES

SOCIAL EVENTS

SENIOR PROGRAMMING

"I have enjoyed getting to know other jewish students on campus and be able to broaden my circle of other people in the community I would have otherwise had a harder time forming a connection with"



55

Student-led social programs hosted



900+

Bagels served at Weekly Friday Nosh



118

Students experienced Hillel for the first time

LEADERSHIP



"AS A KANE FELLOW THIS YEAR I LEARNED A LOT ABOUT MY LEADERSHIP STRENGTHS, SPECIFICALLY IN RELATION TO LEADING WITH JEWISH VALUES. AS THE NEW KANE AMBASSADOR FOR THE NEXT INCOMING CLASS, I LOOK FORWARD TO LEARNING ALONGSIDE THE NEXT GENERATION OF JEWISH LEADERS"

Leadership Highlights

Welcoming our 2nd cohort of the Ha'atid Kane Family Fellowship- a group of 25 up-and-coming first-year students participating in a year-long leadership development fellowship.

For the first time in 3 years, bringing back our Shaller Family Leadership Mission, a 10-day trip for a select group of Hillel student leaders to explore global Jewish leadership. This year the group traveled to Prague, Budapest, Warsaw & Krakow.

Hosting two separate leadership retreats up at Herzl Camp for students, one in the fall with the 30+ Hillel Council members and one in the Spring with the Kane Fellows.

Providing monthly ongoing leadership development training for Hillel's 30+ student leaders.



HILLEL STUDENT COUNCIL

INTERNSHIPS

WEEKEND RETREATS

STUDENT CONFERENCES

HA'ATID KANE FELLOWSHIP

"I have really enjoyed finding a welcoming community at Hillel throughout my first year here at the U. From the beginning, I turned to Hillel to meet new people, and was able to grow my knowledge and passion for leadership"



75+

Students involved in leadership



52

Ha'atid Kane Family Fellowship Graduates



20+

Different student leadership opportunities

ISRAEL



"IF I HADN'T GONE TO ISRAEL WITH HILLEL, I WOULD HAVE NEVER HAD THE COURAGE TO GET INVOLVED AND LEARN MORE. IT'S VERY IMPORTANT TO FOSTER AN ENVIRONMENT WHERE INDIVIDUALS CAN LEARN MORE ABOUT ISRAEL AND FEEL SAFE AND I AM LOOKING FORWARD TO BEING A PART OF THIS COMMUNITY ON CAMPUS TO HELP OTHERS GET INVOLVED"

Israel Highlights

Traveling to Israel with a full bus of students on our first Birthright trip since before the pandemic.

Graduating an additional 25 participants from our Israel Learning Fellowship.

Hosting a giant Israel Week Extravaganza on campus with Israel Shabbat, Israeli cooking & a block party!

Participating in Reverse Mifgash, a program that allowed students to host one of the Israeli participants from the Birthright trip and have them visit the University of Minnesota.

Bringing 25 students to Israel & the Palestinian Territories to explore the conflict and learn how to have nuanced dialogue within our different communities on campus.



FULL BIRTHRIGHT TRIP

ISRAEL WEEK EXTRAVAGANZA

ISRAEL LEARNING FELLOWSHIP

INTERFAITH TRIP

REVERSE MIFGASH

"I am proud to be a part of the israel team. I am incredibly passionate about the Israel space here on campus, and really intrigued by the strategic work of getting students to engage with Israel"



60

Students traveled to Israel



175

Students came to celebrate Israel's 75th Birthday

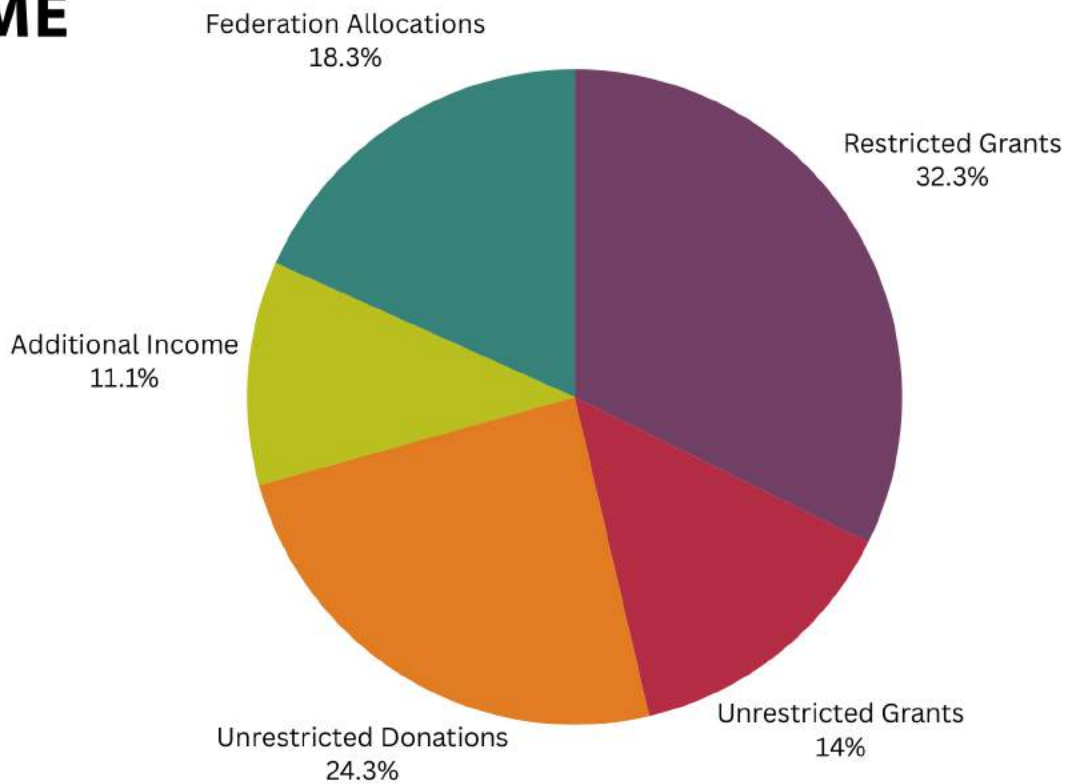


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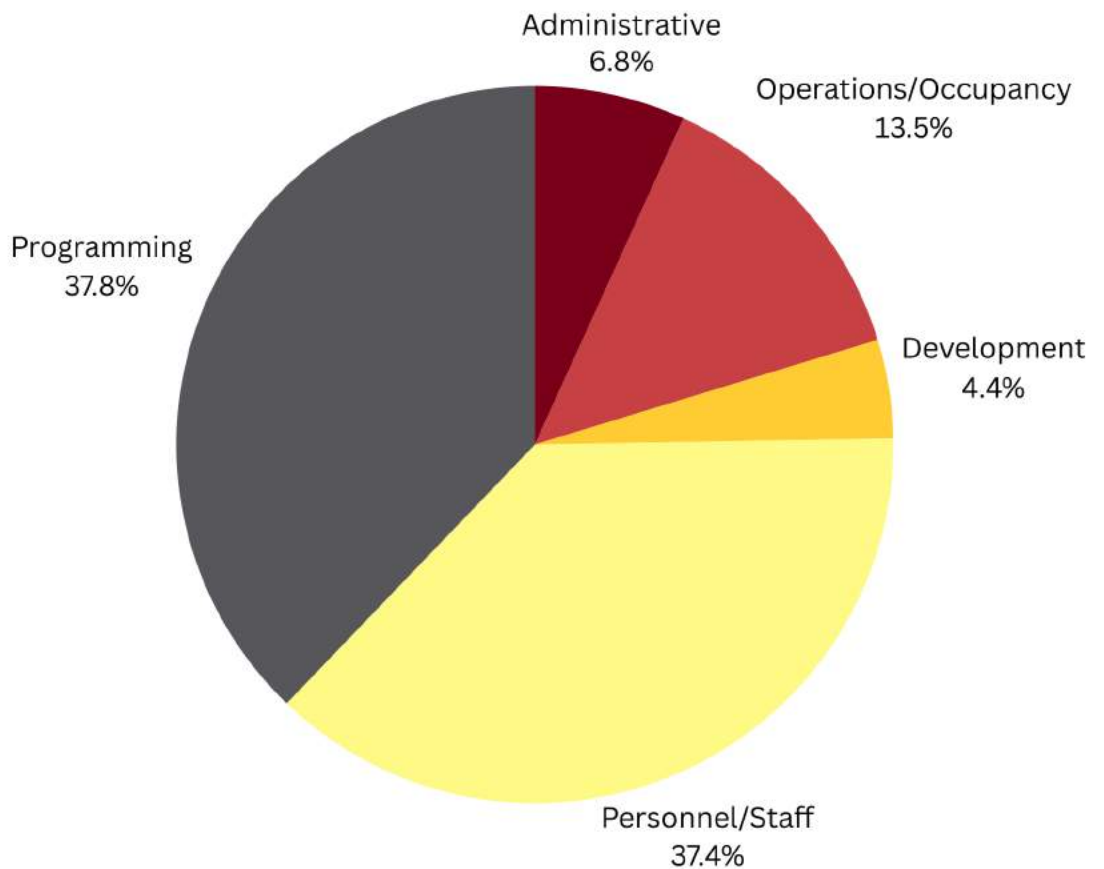
Graduates for the Israel Learning Fellowship

2022-2023 FINANCIALS

INCOME



EXPENSES



***PERCENTAGES BASED ON \$1,215,000 BUDGET**