

FROM THE RABBI

Friends,

Interfaith diversity work is a key to developing and sustaining an open and accepting community. Developing an atmosphere of respect and caring at Indiana University is integral to facilitating growth and development for college students. Diversity programming has been a major focus on my work during my tenure here at IU Hillel. Through discussions, services, and interactive programs many campus religious and cultural leaders have banded together to combat anti-Semitism and promote acceptance, while building strong relationships on campus. This commitment was recognized this year through two awards that Hillel received in conjunction with our interfaith partners.

In 2002 I was approached by a representative from the IU President's office to help with an effort to reformulate the IU Baccalaureate ceremony to make it a truly interfaith ceremony that would be welcoming for all members of the IU community. I recommended several colleagues who shared by commitment to interfaith work. Together, we worked with the IU Alumni Association to develop an innovative, diverse Baccalaureate ceremony. Baccalaureate has been a part of the Indiana University tradition for the past 166 years and traditionally takes place the day before commencement. It engages graduating students and their friends and family members in a spiritual observance surrounding graduation. The committee's goal was to restructure the event so that it represented and incorporated the religious observances of the diversity of students attending Indiana University.

The committee succeeded in restructuring the ceremony and turned it into a rich, meaningful experience that struck a chord with a diverse population of students. It has been a part of the IU tradition for the past six years. "Baccalaureate 2008: An Interfaith Celebration" won the Pride of CASE V Bronze Award for Best Diversity Program. CASE stands for the Council for Advancement and Support of Education and District V includes members from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin. News of our success came in the fall and served as a tangible reminder of the difference that we are making.

Another example of the exciting diversity work done on our campus centered around the Dalai Lama's visit last October. His week long stay in Bloomington, IN featured a three-day educational program that included an interfaith service at St. Paul's Catholic Center. The main focus of this worship was peace and overcoming cultural and religious barriers. Friends from all religions and backgrounds participated in the service, which was recorded by WTIU (IU's PBS affiliate). It was also rebroadcasted on WTIU throughout the semester. The service was awarded the Emmy Award for regional broadcasting. I am honored to have been a part of this effort and cherish the relationships that I have had the privilege of building with my dear friends and colleagues, but even more importantly, IU students have learned about the values of respect, caring, and acceptance.

Our world community will be enriched as our students learn to reach out to one another. It is crucial that we provide opportunities for students to learn about one another's traditions in order to decrease fear and barriers to understanding. We are committed to teaching students to be proud of their own traditions and backgrounds while respecting and reaching out to their friends and neighbors around them.

B'Shalom,

Rabbi Sue Laikin Shifron

**FREE
MATZAH BALL SOUP!
812-336-3824
DOOR TO DOOR
SERVICE IN
BLOOMINGTON!**

10 DAYS IN ISRAEL FOR FREE!

Fifteen Indiana University students are currently spending their winter break in Israel on a Taglit-Birthright Hillel trip. Students from Indiana University and Michigan State University are sharing a bus as they tour Israel on a fun and educational ten day trip. Taglit-Birthright Israel trips are open to any Jewish person between ages 18-26 who has not been on a peer lead trip to Israel. The trip allows participants to experience Israel in a unique and fun setting, and enables them to share this experience with 40 of their peers.

The registration for the summer Taglit-Birthright Hillel trip opens on **February 19, 2009** and on **February 17, 2009** for those who have previously applied. It is our goal to have a full bus of forty Indiana University students on our summer trip. If you know of anyone who is interested in participating in the summer trip, please email Carlie at cweisbro@indiana.edu with the person's contact information and we will follow up with more information and remind them of registration when it opens.



Rachel Silverstein captivates the crowd during her solo performance.



Warming up before Hillel's Open Mic Night at Baked! of Bloomington.

**Coming back to school early
for Women's Rush?**

Take a Break with Hillel!

Thursday, January 8th

12:00pm Bagels at Bloomington Bagel Company and Pottery Painting at Hillel

6:00pm Pizza Dinner at Bucceto's

Friday, January 9th

10:00am-6:00pm Movies & Popcorn

7:00pm Shabbat in your PJs

Saturday, January 10th

1:00pm Manicures and Pedicures

7:00pm Fondue and Mocktails

Sunday, January 11th

12:00pm "Bride Wars", Shopping, and Dinner in Indy!

**Have a question or need a ride?
Contact Jen at 812-336-3824**

STUDENTS CELEBRATE HANUKKAH AND SHARE TALENT

Hanukkah festivities got off to an early start this year at IU! On Thursday, December 11th, Hillel hosted an Open Mic Night and (early) Hanukkah celebration at *Baked! of Bloomington*, a custom cookie shop and coffee bar. Students were invited to take a study break from finals to share their musical talents, and listen to their friends perform (all while indulging in delicious freshly baked cookies!). Over the course of the evening, we heard guitar solos, original poetry, piano tunes, banjo picking, acapella renditions, and even a harmonica medley! Though no potato latkes were served at the event, over sixty students still had a chance to sing favorite Hanukkah tunes and play dreidel. The event was a wonderful opportunity for students to share their talents, and celebrate the end of the semester. Another Open Mic Night is in the works for early second semester.

ALTERNATIVE BREAKS PROMOTE COMMUNITY SERVICE AND SPARK FRIENDSHIPS

Spring 2008 marked the first time Indiana University Hillel participated in an alternative break. We are pleased to expand our offerings this year to three trips, which allows more students to attend and benefit from these programs! The trips bring about new friendships, expand knowledge, and make lasting memories of helping others.

Rebecca Goldstein, a sophomore who participated in the Gulf Coast alternative break last year, says that one of the most meaningful experiences for her was that while the IU students were in New Orleans, local residents "looked at you like, 'wow, people still remember us'". She went on to say that she felt lucky to have the opportunity to help a community in need, a feeling we would like to give to many students this year. Indiana University Hillel is taking students on three staff-chaperoned alternative break trips this spring and summer. The trips bring together a diverse group of Jewish students for hands-on work and discussions about Judaism and its connection to social justice. If your student is interested in either volunteering or the environment, one of these trips could be a great opportunity for them!

Spaces are still available on each of the trips, but we encourage students to apply early as acceptance is on a rolling basis.

Organic Farm

(Tierra Miguel, in Southern California)
Registration deadline: Tuesday, January 20th
Register online at: jewishfarmschool.org

Gulf Coast

Sunday, March 15th-Sunday, March 22nd
Registration deadline: Sunday, January 25th
Register online at hillel.org/tzedek.

Nicaragua

Sunday, May 10th- Sunday, May 17th
Registration deadline: Friday, January 23rd
Contact Jen for an application.

Please contact Jen at jazaligs@indiana.edu or (812) 336-3824 for more information about any of these programs.

Help us keep our records straight! If you are an IU graduate, please send us your mailing address and graduation year!

You can also help us out by telling your friends, parents of current students, and alumni about the Chai-U times. To join, email Leah: leahaft@indiana.edu.

Thank you for your generous support of Jewish student life at Indiana University!

EARN COLLEGE CREDIT WITH HILLEL!

Hillel will be offering multiple R180 (formerly R100) courses in Spring 2009! R180 is a leadership class offered through HPER. These one-credit courses allow students to get credit for participating in Hillel and are a great way to learn new skills, try new activities, boost their GPA, and meet other students!

This semester students in R180 courses planned a casino night benefiting a charity, volunteered at an organization for adults with developmental disabilities, organized an event for Jewish Greeks, and more. Next semester will bring even more opportunities for students to get involved or stay involved in Hillel. We hope your student is interested in one of the R180 opportunities this spring.

Meeting times will be determined by the participants early in the semester. If your student is interested, please have them send their full name, email, cell phone number, 10-digit ID number, campus address, and class preference to Jen at jazaligs@indiana.edu. Please also contact Jen with any questions or requests for full description of the topics.

The topics include:

- **Alternative Break**
- **Birthright Recruitment**
- **Campus Super Star**
- **Israelpalooza**
- **Jewish Camp Counselors and Informal Jewish Educators (led by Rabbi Ron Klotz of GUCI Camp)**
- **Jews is Greek Life (JIGL)**
- **Love, Sex, and Jewish Relationships**

FUN & FREE!

One of our main goals is to come up with exciting new ways to meet students on campus and engage them in the amazing Jewish community Indiana University has to offer! Each day of the week, students are able to meet Hillel staff members on campus, in dorms, and on Kirkwood for free fun snacks and coffee! **Check out what's going on in 2009:**

Mondays from 11am-1pm meet Carlie for lunch in Foster Gresham with students in the Northwest neighborhood!

Tuesdays from 12:30-2:30pm Join Jen at Starbucks by the Sample Gates for a FREE cup of coffee and conversation! (Indiana Ave. & Kirkwood)

Wednesdays from 12-2pm Hot Chocolate Stand right outside of Ballantine Hall- Grab a FREE cup of hot chocolate with Carlie and Jen in between classes!

Thursdays from 12-1pm JHOP (Jewish House of Pancakes) at Hillel. Stop in for Lauren and Jen's free specialty pancakes in a fun and relaxing atmosphere!

Friday from 12:30-2:30pm take a java break and meet Lauren at the IMU Starbucks.

All are welcome at these daily programs! If you can't make it, feel free to stop by Hillel and say hello or email a staff member to find a time to meet up!



WISH LIST

We are always looking for new or gently used items to help us grow and continue to meet the needs of the 4,000 Jewish students on campus. If you would like to help by donating one of the following items or have a question about our need for an item, please contact Leah Hedrick Aft at leahaft@indiana.edu.

- **Full Service Coffee Bar (machine that has capability to make lattes and cappuccinos)**
- **Playstation 3 or X-Box 360 (and games)**
- **Sports Equipment**
- **Sports Tickets to the Pacers or Colts**

Who's Your Bus?
www.HoosierBus.com **\$94**
Round Trip

Direct Luxury Coach Bus
Service from IU to Chicago

2008-09 Trips
-Thanksgiving Break
-Winter Break with
Sorority Rush Early Return
-February 13-15 Weekend
-Spring Break
-Passover Weekend

(866) 723-RIDE - Ride@HoosierBus.com



SHABBAT SPONSORSHIP

Many Jewish memories center around the celebration of Shabbat. The aroma of baking challah, the beauty of the dancing candlelight, the wonderful sounds of laughter and conversation around the table--Shabbat dinner has always been a vital centerpiece of Jewish life and community. Here at the Helene G. Simon Hillel Center, we are able to recreate that magic for hundreds of Jewish college students every week with our vibrant FREE Shabbat dinners. Serving as every Jewish student's "Jewish home away from home", we provide a FREE home cooked kosher meal every Friday night after services. It is truly a special tradition, and one that we take great pride in being able to offer to our students; in fact, many students tell us that the warmth, friendship and fulfillment that Shabbat dinner at Hillel brings is one of the highlights of their week.

In order to continue our tradition of FREE Shabbat dinners, we need your support! If you are interested in sponsoring a Shabbat dinner for the 2008/2009 school year, please contact Leah Hedrick Aft: leahaft@indiana.edu or Rabbi Sue Laikin Shifron: hillel@indiana.edu.



We would like to acknowledge the parents and grandparents of current students, Hillel board members, and friends of Hillel that have made investments in Jewish student life at Indiana University by joining the **Good Shabbos Club** for the **2008/2009 school year**.

Special Thanks to Good Shabbos Club Members

Ron Brodey and Penni Brodey
The Nathan Sacks Family
Debbie and Tom Steiman-Cameron

PARENTS CLUB

We pride ourselves on creating a "Jewish home away from home", and now serve close to 4,000 Jewish students, providing them with a wide array of unique and innovative programs that help to create a strong and vibrant Jewish community on campus. We offer everything from Shabbat services and FREE Shabbat dinners to delivering FREE matzah ball soup to sick students. Hillel touches the lives of all Jewish students at IU through programs, religious observances, and as an advocate on campus. All of this involvement serves as a reminder to students that there is a strong Jewish community here in Bloomington. We also view it as one of our primary responsibilities to educate the general campus community about Judaism and Israel, and to promote diversity programming and understanding on campus.

At Hillel we pride ourselves on constantly developing new and exciting programs to better serve students, and empowering them to grow and become strong leaders within our community. Through your participation in Parents Club, you are enabling Hillel to continue to provide award winning and nationally recognized programs and services to your student while he/she is attending Indiana University.

Even if your child does not take advantage of these programs and services directly, your child benefits from IU Hillel's work to create a community that fosters Jewish life. We have worked diligently with Indiana University on diversity training, and successfully helped to create IU's policy allowing students to be excused from classes without penalty for religious observances. Your investment in Jewish student life is critical to our continuing success! There has been a dramatic increase in the demand for Hillel over the past few years. We truly need your support more than ever. Please consider becoming a member of our Parents Club, *Club Dor L'Dor* (Generation to Generation).

When you become a Chai-Giver in *Club Dor L'Dor*, you will be helping us nurture your child's Jewish self. This membership will help to sustain our many creative programs and enable us to continue to inspire your child. Your tax deductible Chai-Giver donation will also provide you and your child with many exciting benefits. Please read on to find out more about the many giving options open to you.

PARENTS/ GRANDPARENTS COUNCIL:

Council members will contribute to the vision and mission of Hillel, help with local fundraising efforts, be invited to two stakeholders meetings each year and are members of Club Dor L'Dor.

- Officer: \$10,000
- Executive Committee: \$5,000
- Member: \$2,500

PLATINUM CHAI-GIVER -- \$2,000

This highest giving level entitles your child to all the wonderful packages we offer.

BIRTHDAY PACKAGE: On your child's birthday Hillel will deliver a delicious homemade, personalized birthday cake (your choice of flavor and icing!), birthday card and balloons directly to his/her campus address. All care packages come personalized with your special message. It's an easy and convenient way to let your child know that he/she is never far from your thoughts!

FINALS WEEK CARE PACKAGE: At the beginning of finals week each semester, your child will receive a "Finals Week Care Package" of mouth-watering goodies to help him/her get through this particularly stressful time.

PURIM PACKAGE: Help your child celebrate this joyous festival with a goody-filled package of tasty Purim treats!

PASSOVER PACKAGE: Give your child a present of wonderful, kosher-for-Passover delights! Kosher-for-Passover treats can be hard to find in Bloomington but not at Hillel!

We also welcome grandparents to join *Club Dor L'Dor*. Simply forward their mailing/e-mail information to lehaft@indiana.edu.

GOLD CHAI-GIVER -- \$1000

Your choice of any 3 packages plus one free Kosher Café on the Night of Student's Choice

SILVER CHAI-GIVER -- \$500

Your choice of any 2 packages, plus one free Kosher Café on the Night of Student's Choice

BRONZE CHAI-GIVER -- \$250

Your choice of any one package, plus one free Kosher Café on the Night of Student's Choice

We know that you worry about your child when he/she is not at home. Rest assured that Hillel will always provide your child with a warm and welcoming Jewish home to visit on campus. Your gift ensures the continued growth and success of Hillel. If you have any questions, ideas, or concerns, please feel free to call 812-336-3824.

To join Parents Club, please print off the following page, send in with credit card (Visa/Master Card/Discover) or check (payable to IU Hillel) and mail back to:

**The Helene G. Simon Hillel Center
730 E. Third Street
Bloomington, IN 47401**

Yes! We would love to join Parents/Grandparents Council!

Parents/Grandparents Council will contribute to the vision & mission of the Hillel program, be involved in local fundraising efforts, be invited to two stakeholder meetings/year and automatically become members of Club Dor L'Dor.

- Officer** . . . \$10,000 (receives all packages)
- Executive Committee** . . . \$5000 (receives all packages)
- Member** . . . \$2500 (receives all packages)

Yes! I/we would love to join Club Dor L'Dor!

- Platinum** ... \$2000 (receives all packages)
- Gold** ... \$1000 (receives choice of 3 packages)
- Silver** ... \$500 (receives choice of 2 packages)
- Bronze** ... \$250 (receives choice of 1 package)
- Other** \$ _____

Parent Name(s) _____

Address _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

Email _____

Please provide the following information so we can invite your child's grandparents to join the Parent/Grandparent Council or Club Dor L'Dor:

Grandparent Name(s) _____

Address _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

Email _____

Grandparent Name(s) _____

Address _____

(City) _____ (State) _____ (Zip) _____

Email _____

Child's Name _____

Bloomington Address _____

Email _____

Phone _____ Grad Year _____

Enclosed is a check for \$ _____

OR

Please bill my Visa/MasterCard (circle one)

\$ _____ Card # _____

Name on Card _____ Exp _____

3 Digit Code _____

Enclosed is the indicated contribution, but please do not send packages to my/our child.

Grand/Parents Council & Platinum (All Packages)

Gold (receives 3 of the following packages)

Silver (receives 2 of the following packages)

Bronze (receives 1 of the following packages)

Package Options:

- Birthday Cake
- Purim Goody Bag
- Kosher for Passover Goody Bag
- Finals Week Goody Bag

Please complete the information below so your child receives his/her package

For Birthday Package ...

Birthdate _____

Cake: Chocolate Yellow

Frosting: Chocolate White

Cake should read _____

Card should read _____

For Purim, Passover, Finals Packages...

Card should read _____

Please deliver a Regular Lite package

*Please complete ALL information and return to:
Helene G. Simon Hillel Center
730 E. Third Street, Bloomington, IN 47401*

PARENTS CLUB '08

We want to thank all of our parents & grandparents who invested in supporting Jewish life on campus at Indiana University with contributions received from **November 26, 2008 through December 29, 2008.**
Thank you for your generosity and commitment!

GOLD LEVEL: (\$1000-1999)

David Barrett
Marla Gordon

SILVER LEVEL: (\$500-\$999)

Debbie and Tom Steiman-
Cameron

BRONZE LEVEL: (\$250-\$499)

Robert and Susan Tepperman
Steven and Karen Bloom
Steven and Susan Perlman
Steve and Lisa Gerber
Louis and Linda Cantor
Mr. and Mrs. Arnold Berry
Albert and Myra Lee
Fleischman

Steven and Sandy Herman
Elliot and Sharon Karp
Stuart and Denise Birbach

CONTRIBUTORS: (UP TO \$249)

Alan and Rosalie Lahn
Peter Waldstein
Jeffrey and Amy Asher
Steve and Shelia Silverstein
Lawrence and Lisa Sommer
Ellen Alper
Howard and Judith Topal
Mark and Marilyn Harris
Mark and Wendy Gilbert
Linda Kratovil
Louis Udell
Gloria Lutz
Todd and Lori Gardner
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Gary and Bonnie Blumberg
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Michael and Gayle Ludwig
Albert and Claire Wilens

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Ms. Cindy Housefield
Harvey and Judy Himelstein
Jerald and Gayle Ancel
Janet Goldberg Revocable Trust
Klapper Family
Fonda Crandall

**Thank you for the
contributions in honor of Judy
and Sidney Laikin's 50th
Anniversary!**

Susan Jacobs
Moe Silverman
Milton and Marilyn Gilbert
Cynthia Housefield
Christina Kroot
Brad and Nancy Bell
Steve and Sorelle Ancel

CAMPUS SUPER STAR

Campus Super Star 2009 is just around the corner! Super Star (based loosely off of the hit TV show American Idol ©) is a vocal competition open to any student currently enrolled in any of the colleges or universities in the state of Indiana. There are over \$7,500 in prizes available for semi-finalists and finalists, and the winner gets \$5,000 in cash! Please visit our website: www.indianacss.com for details about sponsorship, the contestants, and to follow this year's competition. For specific questions about Campus Super Star or to become a sponsor contact Leah Aft at leahaft@indiana.edu.

THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS AS OF 12/30/08

Leading (\$5,000+)

Klapper Family Foundation, Inc.

Double Platinum (\$1,000+)

Marvin and Stuart Mitchell
Bloomington Recording
Company

Platinum (\$500+)

David and Miriam Resnick
Edward and Phyllis Gabovitch
Carl and Shirley Cohen
Irving and Pat Glazer
Tom and Debbie Steiman-
Cameron
Madame Walker Theatre Center
Bucceto's Smiling Teeth and
Pasta

Gold (\$350+)

Stuart and Joanne Engelberg
Shirley Backer
Morris Mauer
Charles and Myra Echt
James and Wendy Siegel
Irwin Levin