On June 13th, 2016, the 15th class of Project Preservation, Dartmouth Hillel’s global experiential learning program, will travel to Ioannina, Greece to restore and record headstones in a Jewish cemetery. This is the first Project Preservation trip to Greece—previous trips were focused solely in Eastern Europe.

During the spring term, Rabbi Boraz and fifteen students met weekly to read and discuss the Holocaust and the nature of genocide. One book the group read was Laurence Rees’ *Auschwitz: The Nazis and The Final Solution*.

Right after graduation, the group will fly to Krakow, Poland to tour Auschwitz and Birkenau. Then they will depart to Ioannina, the capital of Epirus in Northwestern Greece. Rabbi Boraz and the students will spend six days in Ioannina to restore and record as many graves in the Jewish cemetery as possible.

Student trip coordinator, Jessica Fedin ’17, says that one of the most exciting things about the Greece trip is that unlike previous sites, Ioannina still has a living Jewish community. Jessica has worked with the secretary of the Jewish Community of Ioannina to plan a community Shabbat with the Project Preservation team and the members of the local Jewish community. Many of the members are elderly, which will be a unique opportunity for the Greek Jews to share their stories and history with the Dartmouth students.

Jessica has also been working with the administrators of Kehila Kedosha Janina, a small synagogue and museum on New York City’s Lower East Side that was built in 1927 by Romaniote Jews from Ioannina. In 2004, it was designated a landmark by the City of New York. Synagogue President Marcia Ikonomopoulos has been incredibly helpful providing the rich Jewish history of Ioannina and coordinating trip details.

Jessica is eager to lead the 15th Project Preservation trip because of the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to connect to a living Jewish community from one of the most ancient groups in Jewish history.
The Talmud addresses the question of how wisdom is acquired. *Who makes one’s teacher wiser?* A teacher might say as did Rabbi Chanina, “I have learned much from my teachers. I have learned more from my colleagues than from my teachers. But I have learned more from my students than from all of them.” (Babylonian Talmud, *Ta’anit* 7a)

I have continued to discover this great truth in working with all who walk through the Roth Center. Recently, over 350 students celebrated a Hillel Seder. Our young people organized and led each night. It was so impressive to see how engaged, thoughtful, and serious our students were in fulfilling the mitzvah that, “Each of us are obligated to see ourselves as if we personally were the one’s oppressed in Egypt.” While the majority of those who attended the Hillel Seder were Jewish, a significant number of students from different ethnicities, faiths, and cultures were also there celebrating. Second night Seders were held throughout the campus, which included fraternities, sororities, and residential life. Our Seder leaders welcomed over 200 students from all different backgrounds some of whom had never experienced the joy of Pesach.

Another testament of my continued learning is Project Preservation. During a recent session, a profound student-led dialogue began with the discussion of the yellow star that our people were forced to wear during the period of ghettoization. Our students posed the question, “What is the meaning of a symbol and how might they be hurtful?” Native American, African-American, and Jewish students all shared deep concerns regarding how hurtful such symbols can be. They referred to symbols present at Dartmouth that are a source of discomfort and pain.

For me, this teaches the importance that we are in “this” together. There is *klal Yisrael* (the Community of Israel, we the Jewish people) and there is *klal haolam* (the world community). Hillel is dedicated to both and there are times when we have the opportunity to truly learn of the potential and the power of our shared humanity. Hillel’s vision is to serve as a bridge that affirms our differences in our quest for meaning as a people and at the same time nurtures our shared humanity so as to create a better world through acts of *tikun olam*.

Your commitment makes this vision real. Your dedication to student learning provides all who come to Hillel the space for intimate discussion and dialogue. I am grateful for the opportunity to learn from my students and their experiences and perspectives.
Hello Friends of Dartmouth College Hillel:

Happy Spring! It’s the annual time for renewal. With Passover coming so late this year, it finally corresponds with the real onset of warmth (and pollen) and somehow better fits the true awakening that spring is meant to bestow.

Spring term is also a busy time for Dartmouth students. Many are away on foreign study programs, and students are busy finalizing plans for the summer (except for the sophomores who fortunately still get to spend that memorable summer in Hanover!). But despite so many commitments, Dartmouth Hillel’s student leaders are busy executing an incredible slate of activities for the community at large, demonstrating the important role this organization has on campus as well as for the students who give so much. It has been a weird year so far. The warmest winter on record, and the first Jewish candidate for President to win a major party primary. To think that milestone came and went with such little fanfare – some say a testament to how far we’ve come, others say a negative sign of Jewish identity while away at school. And by doing so, we play our own role in creating those future leaders and role models.

Please don’t hesitate to reach out to myself or any one of the other board members or staff members if you have any questions, comments, or concerns. We welcome your involvement and hope you choose to support the great efforts of Dartmouth College Hillel.

L’Shalom

Evan Konwiser ’03 Tu ’08 Chair, Dartmouth College Hillel Board of Overseers New York, NY

We have a duty to support those who come after us, and whether it’s by financial contribution, time, or service – we welcome your participation in supporting the legacy of Dartmouth students of today and those yet to arrive. Whether the students are from Brooklyn or Israel, California or France, and whether they go on to become supreme court nominees, candidates for President, or any other profession near or far – we can ensure they have the free, open, and inclusive exploration of their Jewish identity while away at school. And by doing so, we play our own role in creating those future leaders and role models.

Update from the Board

Evan Konwiser, ’03 Tu ’08, Chair, Dartmouth College Hillel Board of Overseers

Spring 2016

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INTERN

Jessica Fedin ’17
Project Preservation Coordinator
In mid-February, Dartmouth College Hillel hosted its annual Avi Schaefer Multi-faith Shabbat. Fifty people from different faiths and backgrounds came together to celebrate Avi’s life, which was cut short when he was killed by a drunk driver while a student at Brown University. During his life, Avi Schaefer championed the Jewish state while simultaneously establishing deep lines of communication with students who held differing perspectives. The Avi Schaefer Fund (ASF) is dedicated to nurturing Avi’s values of mutual respect and understanding by cultivating opportunities for informed dialogue and empowering young people.

One way the ASF carries on Avi’s vision is through its support of Avi Schaefer Shabbats on college campuses throughout the country. Dartmouth Hillel’s 2016 Avi Schaefer Shabbat began with a service on the theme of rest in different faith traditions which was led by Madeline Cooper ’16. Service participants included Rabbi Boraz, Reverand Nancy A.G. Vogele ’85, Director of Religious and Spiritual Life at the Tucker Center, Sharjeel Syed ’16 from Al Nur, Dartmouth’s Muslim student association and Anirudh Udutha ’18 from Shanti, Dartmouth’s Hindu student organization.

Rabbi Boraz gave the Dvar on the importance of genuine, not tokenized, multi-faith communities. After services, the group dined on homemade brisket and challah. A faith leader sat at each table and asked prepared questions designed to stimulate dialogue and discourse among the different faith groups. Students and faith leaders discussed topics like prejudice, interfaith and comfort at Dartmouth. It was a wonderful opportunity for a tragedy to be transformed into a positive evening for students.
Every year around Valentines Day, Sally Pinkas, Pianist-in-residence at the Hopkins Center and Professor of Music at Dartmouth College and her husband Evan Hirsch, a piano and chamber music instructor at Brandeis University, perform together at The Hopkins Center. Since the 2016 Duo Program highlighted works by Jewish composers, Rabbi Boraz and the Hillel Board invited the couple to the Roth Center for an evening of dialogue, delicious food and of course, music!

During dinner, the couple chatted with forty students in the Lappin Lounge about their upcoming concert at the Hopkins Center and the intersection of their musical and academic careers. After their talk, the couple played selections from the upcoming concert, which included pieces by Mozart, Rachmaninoff, Bodky, and Natra. For the mini-Roth concert, this virtuosic couple played their selections on the Yamaha in the Lappin lounge. After each selection, Sally and Evan explained the pieces' backgrounds and answered student questions.

Pianist Sarah Cohen ’18 said she appreciated the concert and that it was "really interesting to hear how their styles as musicians showed through while they were playing together on one piano. The Hillel board definitely enjoyed hearing about the background stories that accompanied each of the pieces."

Ms. Pinkas said she and her husband had a wonderful time with the curious, lively group of young people. She went on to say that “art, in particular music, brings people together. Rabbi Boraz, who is passionate about music, has the rare ability to infuse spiritual discussion with sensibility to artistic expression; it was felt through the group discussion and the loving atmosphere. We loved being there!”

Sally Pinkas and Evan Hirsch at the Hopkins Center.
At the end of April, Dartmouth Hillel hosted its inaugural Hillel Academy, an evening for graduating seniors to share their research projects in an intimate setting.

The evening began with Emma Lape, a Classics major who discussed her experience in a Greek theater class. This class sparked Emma’s interest in how personal identity is overlooked in Greek literature. She talked about Sophocles’ *Oedipus* and how the question of self-discovery is at its core.

Madeline Cooper, the next presenter, spoke about the transmission of Jewish radicalness from 1880-1980. Madeline discussed Norwich, VT resident Liz Blum’s family within the context of the Jewish radical tradition. Madeline shared how Blum’s family went from Socialists to Communists who were tracked by the FBI. Madeline concluded with the idea that *Idor vador* goes beyond Jewish traditions and into the Jewish conception of justice.

Jacob Savos gave the audience a laugh with the name of his presentation titled “Math: What Do You Do With That?” Jacob broke his analysis of IMDB big data into components that could be understood by the mostly non-math crowd.

Philip Mannes presented on the process of making soap from a chemist’s point of view. Philip broke down the complicated compounds and explained to the non-scientific audience exactly how soap is made and how to safely make it. Hillel administrator Claudia Palmer, who made soap with Philip last fall, gave soap samples to everyone in the audience.

Hillel Academy was a wonderful opportunity for seniors to share their academic successes in a supportive setting. We look forward to making Hillel Academy an annual event.

Each June we say goodbye to our seniors, who have made a lasting impact on Dartmouth College Hillel. Here, three seniors reflect on their time integrating Jewish life into their college experiences.

**FAVORITE HILLEL MEMORY:**

**Philip Mannes**: Last Passover all of my siblings were in Hanover and we did the four questions during the Seder. I was the wise child, naturally, and David [Mannes ‘17] was the wick- ed. It was nice that everyone could be in one place and that Hillel could provide a meaningful home away from home.

**Ariel Wertheim**: At the end of freshman spring, post bagel-brunch, I played Manischewitz pong with all the graduating seniors. It was such a fun, casual and uniquely Jewish bonding moment for me with the upperclassmen.

**Jacob Savos**: I enjoyed planning and performing the Passover story in 2015. It was also rewarding to lead a second night Seder at Zete and to get the opportunity to introduce Judaism to people who might never have experienced it.

**FAVORITE WEEKLY EVENT:**

**Phil**: Shabbat is the best way to end the week. It’s always very relaxing and a fun time to meet with friends. Having a home-cooked meal on campus is hard to find.

**Jacob**: Shabbat dinner is one of the most welcoming events and it’s truly nice to have somewhere to go that’s different from the rest of campus.

**TIP FOR INCOMING ’20’S LOOKING TO GET INVOLVED:**

**Phil**: Interact with as many people as you can because there are so many great people. Hillel naturally attracts interesting people and it’s a great way to interact with people from all different years.

**Jacob**: The sooner you get involved the better. While things may seem intimidat- ing, everyone wants to meet people and is super friendly. It’s fun if you just jump right in and attend a bunch of events.
Serving as Hillel President for winter term 2016 was one of the most rewarding experiences that I’ve had at Dartmouth. Being president taught me a great deal about micro and macro leadership.

On a macro level, as Hillel president I felt like the representative of the Jewish community at Dartmouth. In this capacity, I was “on call” for making sure that the Jewish faith was represented on campus. On a micro-level, as President, I had to make sure that meetings and events were well-attended and organized. Highlights of winter term include the evening with Sally Pinkas and Evan Hirsch, an early Purim Ball, and a bagel brunch Achim L’Chaim soldiers.

Hillel was honored to have Sally Pinkas and Evan Hirsch join us for dinner and we were enthralled by the selections they played. This year the Hillel board opted to hold the annual Purim ball at the Roth center, which we transformed with decorations. We had delicious snacks, games, and a DJ, which lead to an all around terrific party with a great turnout especially among the ’19’s.

At the last bagel brunch of the term, we were riveted with the stories from Achim L’Chaim soldiers. The Brothers for Life group helps newly injured IDF soldiers.

Thanks to a group of young alums who gifted Hillel an Apple TV and yearlong Netflix subscription, we had our first “Netflix and chIL-LEL” event, which was very successful. We had great turnouts for Havdallah and our annual Avi Schaefer Shabbat. I am proud of the challah for hunger fundraising that was made possible by the entire Hillel community. Students came together to bake and sell 120 loaves of challah, which raised $400 for Mazon. As President, I worked with the programming chair and other students to coordinate the cooking, baking and selling. In the end it was a complete group effort made by dozens of committed students who came together in the spirit of our faith and tradition.

I grew up in Chevy Chase Maryland, the second of four children. Growing up Reform, most of my memories of Judaism are celebrating the major holidays. We’d have big family Hanukah parties and giant Passover Seders at my great-grandparent’s home in Philadelphia. I have fond memories of searching for the afikomen with my cousins and siblings in an old house full of nooks and crannies and terrific vintage antiques.

I started Hebrew school in first grade and really liked learning Hebrew. Learning Hebrew that young probably cemented my love of languages. I was so enthusiastic to start reading my Torah section for my Bar Mitzvah that the Rabbi who ran it recommended that I look into becoming a Rabbi. Right after fifth grade, I went to Camp Modin in Belgrade, Maine. I went back each summer until I became a counselor. At Modin, I kept kosher and participated in weekly Shabbats. My summer experiences really honed my connection to my faith and planted the seeds for me to become active at Dartmouth Hillel.

At first I thought I wouldn’t even apply to Dartmouth since I’d be the seventh member of my family to attend. But every time I visited Hanover, I was impressed with the campus and how genuinely nice the students were. By my junior year of high school I stopped fighting it—a decision I’ve never regretted. I was peripherally involved with Hillel my freshman fall, but I went on the Hillel Birthright trip over winter break that year and had a wonderful time with people that were active in Hillel. I’ve been on the board ever since my freshman winter.

As president, it’s been interesting to see an organization from the inside out. I’ve found talking to and engaging with freshman and prospective students about Jewish life here at Dartmouth to be particularly rewarding. It’s been a privilege to work with students, Rabbi Boraz, and Claudia to be able to plan new events and extend Jewish life at Dartmouth throughout the campus.
The Roth Center for Jewish Life

is open daily from 8 a.m. until 10:00 pm during the academic year and staff is on site weekdays from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. For directions to the Roth Center or information about upcoming programs, please call 603-646-0410. You can also find information on our website dartmouthhillel.org and at Facebook.com/dartmouth.hillel

Dartmouth College Hillel of The William Jewett Tucker Center

The Hub of Jewish Activity at Dartmouth College

Dartmouth Hillel, a part of the William Jewett Tucker Center, seeks to promote a welcoming community to all those who identify with or are interested in Judaism. Hillel is dedicated to providing resources to help students express and explore Judaism on campus; it strives to engage students of all observance levels through religious, cultural, social, and educational programming. Along with weekly programming, Hillel hosts many special programs including: Passover Seders, weekly Shabbat dinners, an Israeli film series, and Havdallah, just to name a few.

Save the Date! October 30, 2016! Homecoming bagel brunch at The Roth Center for Jewish Life. Check out Dartmouthhillel.com for more details.