René Cassin Anglo-Jewish Association

Fellowship Programme 2020
Harry Kelly

Harry is a recent graduate of the University of York in Politics and International Relations, where he was specifically interested in gender and conflict, and government responses to this. He now works for Noam Masorti Youth, a movement he has been involved in since he was seven years old. Harry is also very involved in the global network for his youth movement, Noam Olami, acting as the representative for them to the global Masorti movement. Harry has a longstanding interest in Human Rights issues, which has in the past motivated him to volunteer at ‘the Jungle’ refugee camp in Calais.

Judy Ironside MBE

Judy is the founder of the Pears Short Film Fund at UKJF, which was established to promote UK filmmaking with Jewish themes. She currently works part time as Founder and President of UK Jewish Film. Judy is also the Director of the Geneva International Jewish Film Festival, which she founded in 2011. Judy trained as a Drama Therapist working with young people with special needs. With this training Judy now works ‘pro bono’ as a mentor for women in film, television and theatre. Judy has been involved with The Forgiveness Project for over a decade as a Trustee and currently as an Ambassador.

Eleanor Carmeli

Eleanor is a Master’s student in International Development and Humanitarian Emergencies at the London School of Economics, focusing her research on female empowerment in the Global South. She is also a consultant for Oxfam South Africa and the Head of Partnerships at Vault Platform, a London-based technology company for reporting misconduct at work. Prior to arriving in London, Eleanor worked at the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs as a fellow in the Global Jewish Leadership Incubator. Eleanor is also an Advisor for Wominyan, a lay-led community that explores the intersection of Jewish values and modern womanhood.
Lesley Urbach

Lesley works as an independent historian focusing on MPs who campaigned on behalf of Jews from and in Nazi-controlled Europe after Hitler and his Nazi Party gained power in 1933. She is also co-founder of the Remembering Eleanor Rathbone Group and co-chair of Generation 2 Generation, a Holocaust Education project. As well as engaging in Holocaust education, Lesley volunteers with projects supporting refugees and works with others to organise historical conferences. Since retiring from her work as a careers adviser, Lesley has obtained a Masters degree in Jewish History and Culture from Southampton University.

Ella Taylor-Fagan

Ella is a recent history graduate from Oxford University, now studying to be a solicitor. Ella is particularly interested in the rights and experiences of asylum seekers - regularly volunteering with various organisations to help improve their integration and livelihoods. She is also involved with Yachad Youth. Ella loves cooking and reading.

Nicole Cohen

Nicole recently graduated with a politics degree from Durham University where she was also co-chair of the Student-Staff Consultative Committee. For her dissertation, she used the writings and actions of female Jewish religious leaders to criticise both traditional and feminist power theories, and develop a unified conception of power, free of gendered assumptions. Nicole is currently developing her dissertation for publication and is looking to launch a career in political policy and research. Nicole also volunteered as madricha with RSY-Netzer for many years.
Rabbi Eliyahu Goldsobel

Eli received his Rabbinical Ordinations following six years of Yeshiva and Rabbinical Colleges around the world and Israel. He then embarked on further studies at the University of London, Birkbeck College, obtaining a Qualified Law Degree.

Eli is currently working on his social responsibilities, his passionate interest in student politics and working on a start-up looking at the social and economic justice pressures and its conflict with religious community life.

Eli hopes expand his professional studies into the legal sector, adding to his authentic passion to make this world a better place.

Jade Tess Weiner

Jade is a qualified Attorney, Notary Public and Mediator from South Africa. After completing her training at ENS Africa, she left corporate practice and volunteered with NPOs, in areas of entrepreneurship, female empowerment and skills development.

Jade served as a law clerk for Chief Justice Mogoeng at the Constitutional Court of South Africa and worked as legal researcher at the Helen Suzman Foundation NPO - working to promote and honour the rule of law.

Jade recently graduated with her BCL degree from the University of Oxford.

Varda Bondi

Varda practiced as a Housing / Public Law legal aid lawyer for 15 years. Following an LLM in Human Rights Law (LSE 2011), Varda became the Research Director at a Public Law Project, a national legal charity aiming to improve access to justice. Her empirical research in public law, mediation and administrative justice has been widely published and cited, including in responses to government consultations on Judicial Review reforms.

As a Senior Research Fellow at the University of Essex, she co-founded the UK Administrative Justice Institute.

Varda is a founder member of Beit Klal Yisrael (est. 1990), an all embracing liberal community.
Sophie Bodanis

Sophie completed a BA in Human, Social and Political Sciences and an MPhil in Development Studies at the University of Cambridge. Her MPhil research ranged from investigating the experience of older people during humanitarian crises to evaluating human rights based approaches to development.

Sophie recently joined the Health Policy Fast Track Scheme at the Department of Health and Social Care, where her role looks at how to increase healthy life expectancy and minimise health inequalities across the UK.

Emily Zinkin

Emily is currently the Outreach and Events Manager for Birthright Israel UK, as well as a resident of Moishe House London – Clapham. She has a background in human rights campaigning, with a particular focus on women’s and LGBT+ issues. At university Emily helped to found the University of Nottingham Feminist Action Group and collaborated on campaigns with The Nottingham Women’s Centre and No More Page Three. She is currently a speaker for the 50:50 Parliament Campaign, and an active member of the Fawcett Society and the Women’s Equality Party. Emily is a member of Kingston Liberal Synagogue and likes to practice her Judaism through education and Tikkun Olam.

Sheldon Stone

Sheldon is a Senior Lecturer and Stroke Physician for Older People and Stroke. His research in infection control and behavioural science helped introduce bed-side alcohol hand-rub and reduce antibiotic use to combat antimicrobial resistance.

In preparation for post-retirement activism in the Jewish community, Sheldon regularly blogs for the Times of Israel, often on the Uyghur Muslims. He is also a Spurs season ticket holder (except shabbat!).