



**THE VIEW FROM YU**

**NOV  
2020**



*Wilf campus student happy to be back as he joins classmates moving into the dorms.*



## A Meaningful Start to the New Year Filled with Inspiring Events

The men's Undergraduate Torah Studies programs and Beren's Office of Torah and Spiritual Life created a wealth of learning to honor the High Holy Days, highlighted by Dr. Ari Berman's Hausman/Stern Kinus Teshuva Lecture.

Both campuses featured multiple chaburot [study groups], engaging shiurim [lectures] by YU notables, WhatsApp groups sharing inspirational messages and special programming. Other programming included a leil iyun the night before Yom Kippur and three events about the Sephardic community.



**Rabbi Moshe Tessone**, director of Sephardic programs at YU and a scholar of Sephardic music, gave a fascinating presentation for YU Voices: Crisis

and Hope on the four genres of Sephardic music and how each genre shapes the singing of the Selichot during the forty days prior to Yom Kippur. As Dr. Ronnie Perelis, one of the founders of YU Voices, noted, Rabbi Tessone uncovered "the beauty of the Selichot as well as the layers of history and culture woven into each melody."

### The Straus Center

The Straus Center is offering an impressive lineup of programming: five video lectures on "The Art & Letters of Repentance" were presented in September; Spiritual Autobiographies and The Architecture of Election are new classes offered this semester; and guest lectures on "Jewish Ideas and American Government" funded by the Jack Miller Center are in the works.

### Active Minds

The group's kickoff event, "How to Get Excited for the Unique Upcoming Year," featured Rabbi Lawrence Hajioff and therapist Shira Siltan offering advice on finding focus and balance.

### Social Justice

Wurzweiler School of Social Work presented "Living in the Shadow System" and "Justice Equity in Action" as part of their continuing education program on the role of social justice within social work practices. Speakers included Dr. Claire J. Green-Forde, executive director of the NYC Chapter of the National Association of Social Workers and ReNika Moore, J.D., the director of the ACLU's Racial Justice Program.

### Cardozo Law School

Cardozo's Moot Court Honor Society Competition Team made the semifinals at the Emory University School of Law Moot Court Competition which took place Oct. 16-18.





## Fall 2020 Return to Campus

The move-in to the Wilf and Beren campuses kicked off on Oct. 21. Students came from far and wide to continue the Fall 2020 semester and be a vital part of the on-campus experience that makes YU a unique place of learning and connection.

### Safety is YU's Top Priority

Undergraduate students coming to campus both from international countries and states on NY State's Travel Advisory list had the option to quarantine with YU at a midtown hotel. The Office of Student Life and Residential Housing teams, along with staff, administrators and faculty, provided students with meals, robust programming, Shabbat care packages and daily check-ins to keep up their spirits and ensure a smooth transition to University housing.

Protocols are now in place, including temperature checks to enter buildings, classrooms reconfigured for social distancing, mask wearing and proactive testing on campus through a COVID-19 Monitoring Program.

### Code of Behavior: Valuing the Health and Vitality of Our Community

As we return to campus, we want to share a refresher on our COVID Code of Behavior.

YU's faculty, students and staff seek to affirm and protect each member's right to a healthy, safe and secure environment. Wearing a mask, washing hands and practicing social distancing are just some of the measures we can take to safeguard ourselves and others. By following these safety guidelines, we are contributing to an ethical environment that, according to Jewish tradition and Torah values, places the sanctity and preservation of life as a primary value.

### A NOTE OF THANKS

Our ability to return to campus rests on the hard work and efforts of our dedicated rebbeim, faculty, students and staff. We thank them for their leadership and commitment in getting us back to YU safe and sound.

*The Wilf and Beren campuses are filled with energy and excitement as students return.*





## What's New at YU

### ON THE RISE: YU MOVES AHEAD IN BEST COLLEGES RANKINGS

In *U.S. News & World Report's* latest Best Colleges Rankings, YU came in at #76 from among 1,400 colleges and universities and #54 in the category of Best Value Schools. "The rise in the rankings is an expression of a broader story about our progress and momentum," said Dr. Ari Berman, President of Yeshiva University.

A week prior to the programs, student-attendees participated in 30-minute résumé review sessions with tech professionals.

### Entrepreneurship at the Innovation Lab

More than 100 students will team up with the YU Innovation Lab's new cohort of 11 Israeli startups, including Erudite.com, ExperaHub.com and Letos.

### Wurzweiler Partners with Teletherapy Startup

Wurzweiler has joined with Eleos Health, a digital mental health platform, in a first-of-its-kind partnership to remove barriers to care and deliver quality data-driven treatment through the latest in telehealth technology.

### Values in Action at Sy Syms

The Sy Syms Jewish Values Curriculum offers practical, experiential courses to help students excel professionally while remaining faithful to Torah values.

met with representatives from such powerhouse companies as Ernst & Young and PwC for live video one-on-one networking with prospective employers. It was a virtual first for YU.

### Career Center Focuses on Great Tech Jobs

At September's Finance, Fintech and Accounting Career Fair, over 70 students

In October, tech-interested students got their résumés in order for two virtual career-networking events: TechUcation, Oct. 19, and Tech Meet & Greet, Oct. 23.



## Faculty News

**Dr. Lisa Chalik**, assistant professor of psychology at Stern College, received a two-year grant from the Center for the Science of Moral Understanding for "Expanding the Moral Circle in Early Childhood," a study of how children view morality.

**Dr. Bruno Galantucci**, associate professor of psychology at both Yeshiva College and Stern College, partnered with Eliyahu Spivack and Nathaniel Paley, two psychology majors at Yeshiva College, and Benjamin Langstein, a fourth-year student at Ferkauf, to publish "Repair Avoidance: When Faithful Informational Exchanges Don't Matter That Much" in Issue 44 of *Cognitive Science*.



**Dr. Shannon Lane**, professor of social work at Wurzweiler, co-authored "Giving a Voice to Those with Felony Convictions: A Call to Action" for *Social*

*Work* with Dr. Katharine Hill, Dr. Tanya Rhodes Smith and Dr. Sarah Shannon.

In his new book, *Anim Zemiros*, **Rabbi Elchanan Adler**, rosh yeshiva at RIETS, illustrates the beauty of the poem of the same name, a treasured part of Shabbos davening.



# Leadership & Entrepreneurship

## A New Year of Student Leadership

We want to recognize the incredible work that has been done by the Resident Advisors, Head RAs and Graduate Assistants on both the Beren and Wilf campuses to ensure that the opening of the campus residence halls went smoothly and successfully. Their overtime effort is greatly appreciated.

We also want to welcome the new undergraduate student council leaders and thank them for their guidance, leadership and creative programming.

## COMMUNITY OUTREACH DURING COVID

YU students have been working hard to help our community get through the pandemic.

The **Torah Activities Council** raised money for the needy through Venmo and delivered Rosh Hashanah packages to the homebound and elderly with DOROT.

The **Katz School's** program in speech-language pathology is offering free online speech, language and cognitive therapy to members of the YU community residing in New York State as well as their families.

In September, the **Parnes Clinic at Ferkauf** opened to see patients for in-person therapy sessions on Tuesdays and Thursdays.

## Staying Connected

Students have been keeping in touch with each other throughout the semester at such online events as Family Feud, Trivia Night, T-shirt tie-dyeing, a sophomore class Meet and Greet and Good Shtick! with Zack.



*Ari Zoldan, CEO  
Quantum Media Group*

## Alumni Strengthen the Israel-UAE Relationship

**Ari Zoldan '99SB**, the CEO of Quantum Media Group, a global marketing and media company, is adding a new position to his CV: member of the board of advisers of the Private Investment Group. Among his responsibilities will be cross-border transactions and strengthening the ties between Israel and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).



**Rabbi Yehuda Sarna**, Chief Rabbi of the UAE, spoke to Yeshiva College honors students about his role and how the rabbinic functions in the country.



# Upcoming Online Events

To register for the programs listed here and for more information on other upcoming events. Please go to [yu.edu/events/all](https://yu.edu/events/all)

## Commemorating Kristallnacht

Emil A. & Jenny Fish Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies, Arthur Schneier Program for Int'l Affairs and *Names, Not Numbers*®  
**Tuesday, Nov. 10**  
7 p.m. / EST

## Nobel Prize Nanosecond Party

Jay & Jeanie Schottenstein Honors Program  
**Wednesday, Nov. 11**  
Noon / EST

## Marketing Mingle

Career Center  
**Monday, Nov. 16**  
7 p.m. / EST

## Non-Profit Fair

Career Center  
**Wednesday, Nov. 18**  
7 p.m. / EST

## How to Pivot if Your Business is Upended

YU Wall Street Group  
**Wednesday, Nov. 25**  
Noon / EST

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY

## Hanukkah Dinner

### A Night of 1,000 Dinners

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 6

A virtual dinner in keeping with spirit of YU's beloved tradition, this cherished 96-year-old event will be celebrated in a new way with an innovative program gathering alumni, parents and friends from around the globe and featuring University luminaries and distinguished guests.



[yu.edu/events/all](https://yu.edu/events/all)

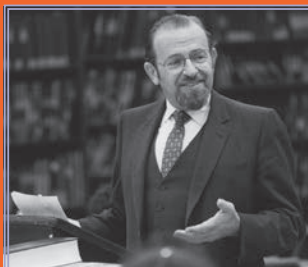
Special programming and meals are being planned for the Thanksgiving holiday.

WOMEN'S UNDERGRADUATE OPEN HOUSE

**Sunday, Nov. 15**  
11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. / EST

MEN'S UNDERGRADUATE OPEN HOUSE

**Sunday, Nov. 22**  
11:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. / EST



## Lamm Heritage Archives

The newly revamped Lamm Heritage Archives offers improved navigation through Rabbi Dr. Norman Lamm's zt"l rich trove of writing and other materials. Visit [yu.edu/drlamm](https://yu.edu/drlamm)

## NAMES, NOT NUMBERS® GETS NATIONAL RECOGNITION

*Names, Not Numbers*®, the documentary film project founded by Tova Rosenberg where student teams record testimonies of Holocaust survivors had its latest film, done by Miami Public School students, aired on WABC (ABC7) in New York and New Jersey. The film premiered at the Miami Jewish Film Festival in January 2020.

The event was dedicated to **Dr. Moshe Avital**, one of the survivors documented by *Names, Not Numbers*®, who passed away on Sept. 29. He was revered for his writing, his work as an ardent educator and his love of the Jewish people.



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