



**THE VIEW FROM YU**

**MAY  
2021**



*After a successful reopening this year, YU gears up for in-person classes and activities in the fall.*

## A Return to Campus Life This Fall

With the help of rebbeim, faculty, staff, administrators and students, the YU community has navigated the uncharted waters of a global pandemic and emerged stronger than ever. And now, given the acceleration of COVID-19 vaccination efforts regionally and nationally, the University plans to reopen its campuses this fall to in-person instruction and operations along with the resumption of more on-campus activities and available space in our residential housing in the fall of 2021—all in accordance with the latest health guidelines.



### Showing Our Unity with Israel

YU livestreamed a unity event from its Glueck Beit Midrash to offer words of strength to the communities in the U.S. and Israel from **Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman, Rabbi Menachem Penner, Rabbi Meir Goldwicht, Rabbi Yaakov Glasser and Rabbi Ari Solomont**. “Every siren and every rocket pierces our hearts and raises our connection with Am Yisrael,” said Rabbi Glasser. “We come together as a YU community to draw strength from each other and with each other.”

[SEE MORE](#)



## Mental Health Awareness Month

As part of YU’s commitment to support the emotional health of its community, May showcased a range of programs.

**Dr. Rona Novick**, dean of Azrieli, gave the keynote address at the 3rd Annual Community Mental Health Shabbat (May 6 – 9, 2021) to communities across North America. On Thursday and Sunday, Dr. Novick led resilience workshops for high school students.

In preparation for the Mental Health Shabbat, RIETS, in partnership with the OU and RCA, held a conference call with rabbis to

share ideas and practices related to emotional wellness. Speakers included **Dr. David Pelcovitz** (Azrieli) and **Rabbi Yaakov Neuburger** (RIETS).

The Yeshiva Student Union organized virtual meals for students to “get together” with other students from their own campuses as a way to combat stress and loneliness.

Wurzweiler co-sponsored a free conference, “Maintaining Balance in an Unbalanced World,” in cooperation with the Washington Heights & Inwood Council on Aging.



## Values and Leadership

### A Presidential Appointment



President Joseph Biden named **Prof. Michelle Adams** of Cardozo Law to the Presidential Commission on the Supreme Court of the United States, comprised of bipartisan experts on the Court and

the Court reform debate. [READ MORE](#)

### Judaism Gets Economical



Touching on topics ranging from market regulation and minimum wage to health care and education, **Rabbi Daniel Feldman** of RIETS brought the Torah's principles to life in his Yeshiva College course "Judaism and Economics," in collaboration with the Straus Center.

[READ MORE](#)

### A Higher Office

**Prof. Ari Wasserman** (Sy Syms), author of *Making It Work*, and co-author with his wife, **Miryam Wasserman**, of *Making It All Work*, participated in "Navigating Being Orthodox in the Workplace," a panel discussion on workplace halachic [Jewish law] issues organized and moderated by Sy Syms Student Council co-president **Alexandrie Brody**.

### WALK-IN YU VACCINE SITE

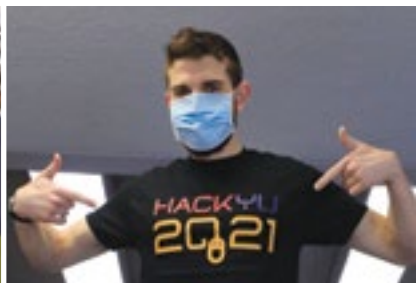
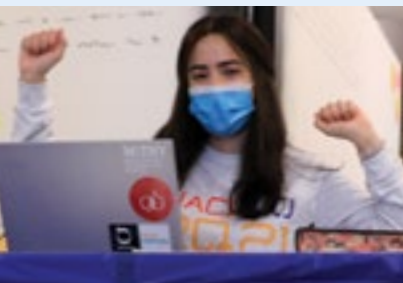
A New York City vaccine site at Weissberg Commons on the Wilf Campus, offering the Pfizer-BioNTech vaccine, is open for walk-in appointments to all New York residents or workers above the age of 16.



#### HOURS

9 a.m. to 7 p.m. / Sun. – Thurs.

9 a.m. to 5 p.m. / Friday



**HACKYU2021:** Students coded round the clock to create the Next Big Thing.



## Entrepreneurship and Innovation



**Dr. Noam Wasserman**, dean of Sy Syms, spoke about how to bounce back from failure, among other topics, as a panelist

in "Entrepreneurship 2021: Learning from the Past and Present So We Can Shape the Future," sponsored by the Global Interdependence Center. [READ MORE](#)

### Making (Virtual) Millions

**Julie Rose** '23SB won the Yeshiva University Stock Market Challenge, where 145 participants, mentored by experienced traders, invested in the stock market using \$100,000 in a fantasy brokerage account. As the winner, Rose earned an informative lunch with a top hedge fund manager.



## Science and Technology

### Business Meets Biotech

The Katz School and Albert Einstein College of Medicine will host a three-part series on business and entrepreneurship in biotechnology. Topics include “Commercializing your Innovation: How to Increase Your Odds of Success,” “What Makes a Fundable Life Science Venture?” and “Perspectives from a European CEO.”

### Hack the Night Away

On May 1, YU computer science students (60 in person, 20 virtually) worked through the night for the sixth official HackYU2021 on solutions to “Technology & Education.” The event included a midnight Chinese dinner with **President Ari Berman**, games and alumni workshops. The winning team, chosen on Sunday, created a program that universalizes digital conversations. [READ MORE](#)



### A WHOLE NEW WORLD

Returning students will discover newly renovated facilities that include modernized equipment and upgraded spatial designs, such as The Selma T. and Jacques H. Mitrani Tech Lab and classrooms at Beren; the Engineering Lab at Beren, the Digital Art and Music Studio at Wilf and the Engineering Lab at Wilf, all funded by the Margaret and Leo Meyer and Hans M. Hirsch Foundation; the occupational therapy school at the Katz School; the Studio Art Department at Beren; the student lounge at Ferfauf; and an expanded conference room for the Straus Center.



## Great Jobs and Impactful Careers

### Virtually Real Estate

Tailor-made for real estate professionals, Sy Syms is launching the Mitzner Online Master of Science in Real Estate, directed by **Dr. Andreas Christopoulos** and taught by leading industry experts and business school faculty.

[READ MORE](#)

### Business Gets Fashionable

The Shevat Glaubach Center hosted “Fashion & Business: Careers in Marketing,” a first-of-its-kind Zoom panel on careers in fashion, home decor, cosmetics and

publishing featuring industry leaders from Condé Nast, L’Oréal, FULLBEAUTY Brands and Jonathan Adler.

### Moving and Shaking

The Shevet Glaubach Center hosted a virtual Finance Meet & Greet that included alumni and other professionals from about 20 firms, such as Morgan Stanley, J.P. Morgan, Blackstone, Jefferies Group, and TD Securities. Some firms recruited for 2022 internships while alumni offered résumé feedback and guidance in finance careers.



### Consulting Force/ Innovation Lab 2.0

YU and the OU are joining forces for a summer internship offering real-world project-based work experience, mentorship and informative sessions taught by industry experts from top firms such as BCG, Accenture, Morgan Stanley and Mercer Consulting.



## Faculty and Staff News

### New Program Director



**Dr. Julie Kardachis**, who has decades of experience in a variety of clinical practice areas in occupational therapy, is the Katz School's new director of the Occupational Therapy Doctorate. [READ MORE](#)

### The Rabbi of Buchenwald

Over 500 people on Zoom attended the book launch sponsored by the Fish Center of *The Rabbi of Buchenwald: The Life and Times of Herschel Schacter*, written by Dr. Rafael Medoff and published by YU Press. The event featured Rabbi Herschel Schacter's son, **Rabbi Dr. J.J. Schacter**, and his daughter, **Miriam Schacter '75W, LCSW**.

[READ MORE](#)

### Making it in Hollywood

*The Hollywood Reporter* featured a study by **Dr. S. Abraham Ravid** and **Dr. Shu Han** (both of Sy Syms) about the ageism faced by Hollywood directors. [READ MORE](#)

### A Catalog of Great Work

The Office of the Provost and Yeshiva University Libraries have released the **Catalog of University Authors 2021** to honor the scholarly and creative work done by faculty and staff at Yeshiva University.

[READ MORE](#)



## Student and Alumni Focus

### Involving Young Alumni

The YU Office of Alumni Affairs has created a Young Alumni Council, drawing its 25 members from alumni in the United States and Israel who have graduated within the past seven years. The council plans on running networking, social and fundraising events and setting up opportunities for young alumni to mentor current undergraduates. The goal is to lay the groundwork for lifelong engagement with the YU community.



### Maccabees Meet the Bucks

In recognition of the Maccabees' 36-game winning streak, Milwaukee Bucks owner Marc Lasry honored the team by hosting 10 student-athletes courtside at a Bucks game.



### WORKING FOR JUSTICE

**Andrea Barrientos** and **Sadie Casamenti**, Cardozo 3L students, were chosen along with 26 other graduates from top law schools as Justice Fellows with the Immigrant Justice Corps. Fellows provide legal assistance to low-income immigrants. [READ MORE](#)





# Upcoming Events

Visit [yu.edu/events/all](https://yu.edu/events/all) to register for the programs listed here, unless otherwise noted.



## Ninetieth Annual Commencement Exercises

The Yeshiva University 90th Annual Commencement Ceremony will be celebrated in person and livestreamed on Wednesday, May 26, 2021, at 1 p.m. at the Arthur Ashe Stadium at the USTA Billie Jean King Tennis Center in Flushing Meadows-Corona Park in Queens, New York.

Former White House Middle East Envoy **Jason Dov Greenblatt** '89YC will deliver the keynote address and will be the honorary degree recipient for his contribution to the historic Abraham Accords.

[READ MORE](#)

See below for times and dates of graduate school commencement exercises.

**All ceremonies are virtual unless otherwise noted.**

### MAY 24

Ferkauf Graduate School of Psychology

12 p.m.

### MAY 25

Wurzweiler School of Social Work

1 p.m.

### MAY 27

Albert Einstein College of Medicine

3 p.m.

*(in-person and livestreamed)*

### JUNE 1

Benjamin N. Cardozo School of Law

1:30 p.m.

*(in-person and livestreamed)*

### JUNE 6

Azrieli Graduate School of Jewish Education and Administration

12 p.m.

### JUNE 10

Katz School of Science and Health

Sy Syms School of Business

6 p.m.

### JULY 22

Wurzweiler School of Social Work Block Program

1 p.m.

Find out more at [yu.edu/commencement](https://yu.edu/commencement)



## WE MOURN

The Yeshiva University community mourns the tragic passing of **DONNY MORRIS** Z"L, '20YUHS, at the Lag B'Omer tragedy in Meron. As a son of a multigenerational YU family, Donny exemplified and lived by YU values. He was known for his selflessness, his true love for learning and willingness to always help others in need. YU extends its deepest condolences to his beloved parents Aryeh '01SB and Mirilana '02S, '04W, '22SB Morris; siblings Akiva '23YUHS and Gabriella;

and grandparents Rabbi Joel '68YC, '74R, '99F and Malka '64YUHS, '68S Morris, and Rabbi Ira '65YUHS, '69YC, '71R, '72BR, '82W and Faigie Kronenberg. The Donny Morris Z"L Memorial Program has been established to perpetuate Donny's legacy and commitment to growth, Torah learning and strong middos. Sign up at [donnyseder.com](https://donnyseder.com) to participate in a unique self-improvement initiative and siyum in memory of Donny at his Shloshim on Tuesday, June 1.



# Yeshiva University