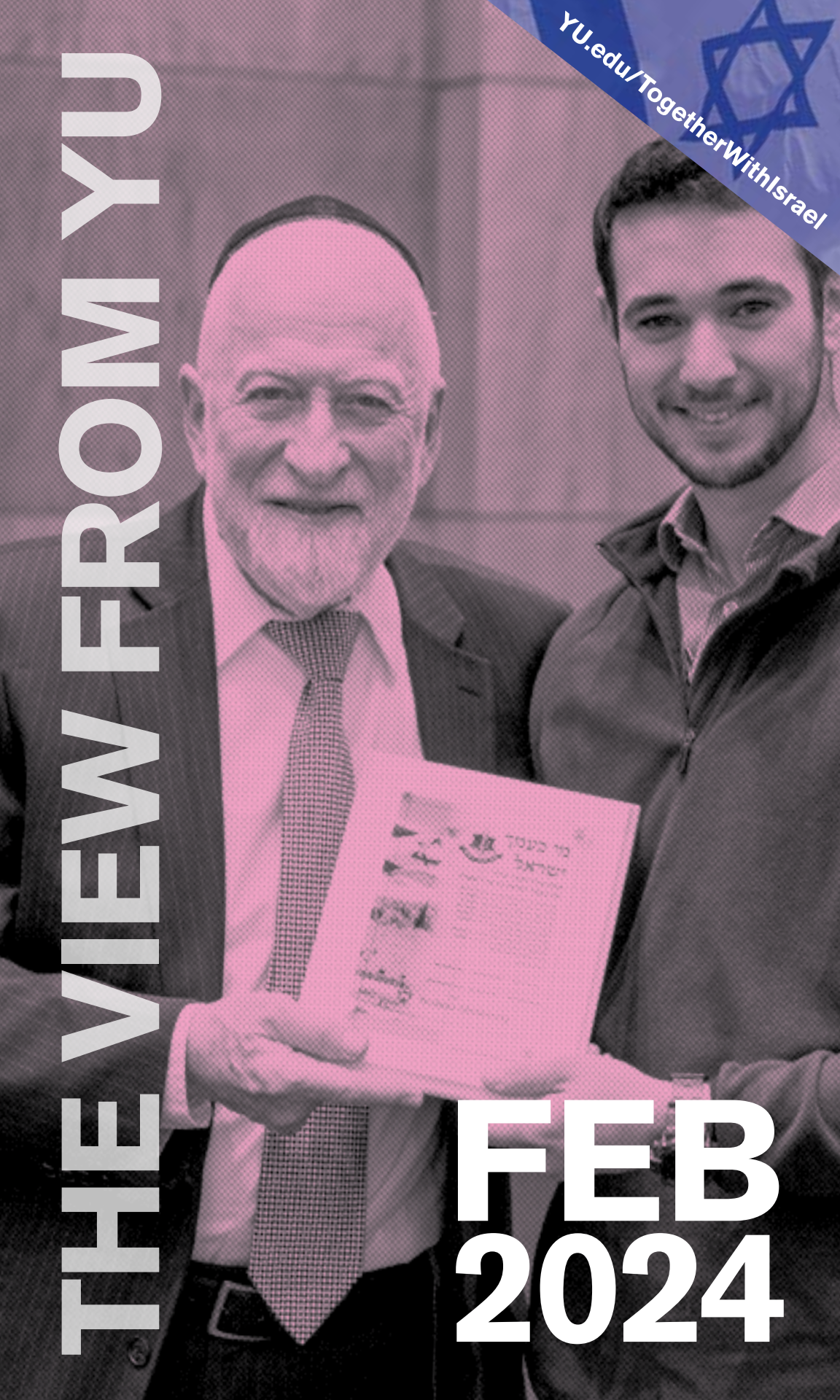


# THE VIEW FROM YU



[YU.edu/TogetherWithIsrael](https://yu.edu/TogetherWithIsrael)



# FEB 2024

# YU Stands Together with Israel



Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman, President of Yeshiva University, meets with members of kibbutz Kfar Aza, one of the communities attacked on Oct. 7.

## President Berman Visits IDF Soldiers in Gaza

In January, **Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman, President of Yeshiva University**, and **Rabbi Meir Goldwicht**, a Rosh Yeshiva at YU, traveled to Israel to meet with soldiers serving in Gaza. Coordinated through the IDF, the trip offered the rare opportunity to provide solace and encouragement to troops on the front lines. During the visit, one IDF soldier conveyed his heartfelt gratitude, saying that meeting with Dr. Berman was like being embraced by the global Jewish community. While in Israel, Dr. Berman also took the opportunity to meet with the families of hostages from Kfar Aza, extending his compassionate support and comfort to them during this challenging time.



Roi Assaraf (left) with YU students and Rabbi Dan Cohen (right)

## Honoring Our Heroes

On Jan. 24, Dr. Berman welcomed back to YU our student heroes, who as reservist combat soldiers rejoined their units after Oct. 7 to defend Israel. The four returning students recognized for their service are **Jonah Eisenberg '27SB**, **Yaakov Pahmer '27YC**, **Elan Roffe '26SB** and **Boaz Simantov '26SB**.

Later that evening, the YU community heard the gripping account of Roi Assaraf's escape from the Oct. 7 terrorist attacks during the Re'im Supernova Music Festival. Speaking in Hebrew to an audience of more than 500 people, Assaraf recounted the harrowing events of that day that transformed his life and re-awakened his commitment to Jewish life and practice. The event was organized by the Undergraduate Torah Studies program and the Counseling Center.



(l-r): Rabbi Aharon Ciment, Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman, Yaakov Pahmer '27YC, Jonah Eisenberg '27SB, Boaz Simantov '26SB, Elan Roffe '26SB and Rabbi Yaakov Neuburger

# New and Notable



(l-r) Yaffa Zilbershats, academic chair of Yeshiva University in Israel, and Stephanie Stauss, executive director

## YUI: Open for Business

The Yeshiva University in Israel (YUI) undergraduate program was officially launched on Jan. 22 in Jerusalem. Starting in fall 2024, students can earn a YU degree in collaboration with Tel Aviv University or Bar-Ilan University. This unique program offers coursework taught in English along with immersive Torah studies, conducted in an open beit midrash environment.

Dr. Berman noted that YUI “reinforces our global role as the flagship Jewish university, enabling our students to not only lead lives of great personal and professional success but also lives of impact and meaning.” **Yaffa Zilbershats**, the academic chair of YUI and former head of Israel’s Council for Higher Education’s Planning and Budgeting Committee, hailed the program as “a game changer.” Applications for the upcoming fall semester are currently being accepted.

[READ MORE](#)

## New at YU: Master’s Degrees in Computer Science

In fall 2024, the Katz School is introducing two new on-campus master’s programs in computer science, a first for YU. The M.S. in Computer Science is geared toward those with undergraduate degrees in comp sci, ready to take their careers to the next level; the Agile M.S. in Computer Science caters to students who do not have undergraduate degrees in comp sci but are looking to enter the tech field.

Balancing theory, systems and applications, these research-intensive programs provide pathways to jobs in R&D and to indemand specializations in AI, cybersecurity, networking and software engineering as well as preparing students for Ph.D. programs. Applications are now being accepted.

[READ MORE](#)



New York State Sen. Robert Jackson (D-31) stands with Dr. Kimberly Moore, director of Care Café and clinical assistant professor, Wurzweiler School of Social Work.

## Care Café Wins Community Award

On Jan. 25, Wurzweiler’s Care Café was among a group of select nonprofit organizations who received the New York State Senate Empire Award for their dedicated service to the neighborhoods of upper Manhattan and the Bronx. Presenting the award was **State Sen. Robert Jackson (D-31)**, who praised these remarkable community champions for their unwavering support and leadership.

## New and Notable



### Cardozo Students Discover the Essence of Effective Lawyering

This January, select Cardozo students participated in two unique multiweek bootcamps. The Intensive Trial Advocacy Program (ITAP), one of the most rigorous trial advocacy programs in the nation, exposed students to cutting-edge courtroom litigation strategies taught by prominent

jurists and lawyers. Meanwhile, the Intensive Transactional Lawyering Program (ITRANS) equipped students with essential deal-making and negotiation skills for client representation. Alumni like Jonathan Lenzner, now Chief of Staff for the FBI, has described the impact of the ITAP experience as “transformative.”

[READ MORE](#)



Cardozo students participate in the law school's Intensive Trial Advocacy Program



Bret Stephens

### Bret Stephens Comes to YU

On the evening of March 18 at the YU Museum, the Emil A. and Jenny Fish Center for Holocaust and Genocide Studies will host “At the Crossroads: Oct. 7, the Holocaust and the Global Rise of Antisemitism” with **Bret Stephens**, Pulitzer Prize-winning journalist and *New York Times* Op-Ed columnist. Together with **Dr. Shay Pilnik**, the Fish Center’s director, Stephens will explore the deeper meaning of this historic moment, the future of Jewish life in America and how the importance of Holocaust education is tied to it all. The ticketed event will be followed by a dessert reception. [READ MORE](#)

# Students, Faculty & Alumni

## So Many Books, So Little Time

The Seformim Sale, a cherished YU tradition since its founding in 1964, has returned to Belfer Hall's Weissberg Commons, where bibliophiles can browse at leisure through book-filled aisles and stalls. Nearly 6,000 titles are available for purchase at this year's must-attend event, which runs from Feb. 4 through Feb. 25. The student-run sale also includes engaging programming throughout its three-week run, featuring renowned figures like Rabbi Chanoch Teller and Rabbi Hershel Schachter. [READ MORE](#)



## Helping the Needy, One Day at a Time

Operating on both the Wilf and Beren Campuses, Project Feed NYC is a student club committed to helping the local community by volunteering at soup kitchens and organizing clothing drives. The Beren club directs its efforts to MainChance soup kitchen in the Grand Central neighborhood; the Wilf club focuses on the ARC XIV Fort



Zach Goldberg '27SB

Washington Senior Center. According to club presidents **Ezra Rosenbaum**, **Rachel Gelb** and **Sela Ratner**, "our objective is to continually increase the pool of dedicated volunteers so that we can support those in need nearly every day of the week." To donate to their February drive, contact [yuprojectfeedNYC@gmail.com](mailto:yuprojectfeedNYC@gmail.com)



Johnny Halpert, former YU men's basketball coach

## Alumni Night with the Macs

Over 160 enthusiastic YU alumni and their families came together to honor the rich legacy of YU men's basketball and pay tribute to the iconic former coach, **Johnny Halpert**, during an engaging pregame gathering leading up to the Feb. 3 contest between the YU Macs and Farmingdale State College. Coach Halpert, who will be inducted into the New York State Basketball Hall of Fame on Sunday, March 17, at the Glens Falls Civic Center, received a standing ovation at the game.



## Dean Wasserman on Business Transformation

The January edition of *Think:Act* featured insights from **Dr. Noam Wasserman**, dean of the Sy Syms School of Business, on the topic of business transformation within startups. Dean Wasserman is a renowned expert in entrepreneurship and the author of the bestsellers *Life is a Startup* and *The Founder's Dilemmas*. [READ MORE](#)



# Upcoming Events

Visit [yu.edu/events/all](https://yu.edu/events/all) to learn more about the programs listed here.

### The Seforim Sale

Sunday, Feb. 4–Sunday, Feb. 25  
10 a.m. – 10 p.m.  
Weissberg Commons  
Wilf Campus

### Dor L'Dor Yeshiva Learning Program

Monday, Feb. 19  
8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Glueck Center, Wilf Campus

### MES Conference Autonomy in Medicine

Sunday, Feb. 25  
8 a.m. – 2 p.m.  
Furst Hall, 501  
Wilf Campus

### Yom Iyun A Women's Dor L'Dor Program

Sunday, Feb. 25  
10 a.m. – 1 p.m.  
Beren Campus

### Stomp Out the Stigma

Tuesday, Feb. 27  
6 – 10 p.m.  
Lampert Auditorium  
Wilf Campus

### At the Crossroads: October 7, the Holocaust and the Global Rise of Antisemitism with Bret Stephens

Monday, March 18  
7:30 p.m.  
YU Museum | 15 W. 16 St., NYC  
Ticketed event



## Together with Israel

For the latest news and information on University initiatives, resources and events in support of Israel, please visit YU's web page [TOGETHER WITH ISRAEL](#).

## IN MEMORIAM

### YU Mourns the Passing of Rabbi Zevulun Charlop zt"l, Dean Emeritus of RIETS

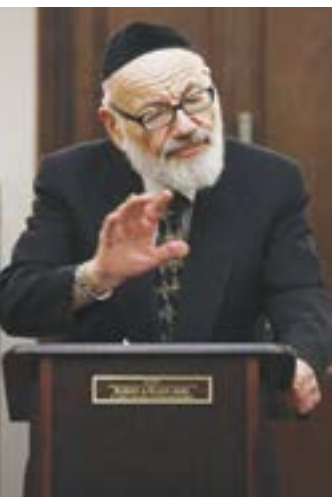
An exceptional leader, scholar, educator and one of the architects of Yeshiva University as we know it today, **Rabbi Zevulun Charlop zt"l**, '51YC, '54R, passed away on Jan. 16, 2024, at the age of 94.

Serving as the Max and Marian Grill Dean of the Rabbi Isaac Elchanan Theological Seminary (RIETS) for over 35 years, his influence on YU was profound and far-reaching. Under his guidance, RIETS experienced remarkable growth, producing thousands of rabbis, educators and Jewish scholars.

"This yeshiva was forever transformed, elevated and enriched by the spiritual essence and character of our beloved mentor," stated Rabbi Dr. Ari Berman, President of Yeshiva University.

Devoted to God and the Jewish people, a distinguished scholar of Torah, rabbinic law and American history, Rabbi Charlop dedicated his life to nurturing the future generations of rabbis with the goal of preparing them to relate to the broadest range of Jews throughout the country and the world. With a passion for Judaism and life itself, he personified the ideals cherished by Yeshiva University.

Rabbi Charlop's beloved wife, Judith Charlop z"l, passed away in 1999. He is survived by eight children as well as numerous grandchildren and great-grandchildren. May Hashem comfort the family, along with all those who mourn for Zion and Jerusalem. [READ MORE](#)



Yeshiva University

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