

The Official Student Newspaper
of the
Abraham Joshua Heschel
High School



"We stand for what we utter..."
- Rabbi Heschel

Student Spotlight: Sophomores Raise Money for Cancer Research

By Eli Bernstein '28, Staff Writer

On the morning of Friday, Feb. 27, sophomore Ben Salsberg stood in front of his peers at Hachana, reflecting on his experience battling cancer as a child and the reason he joined this year's Leukemia and Lymphoma Society campaign. For Salsberg and the rest of the student team, the fundraiser was more than a campaign, it was personal. His story is just one example of a broader effort among Heschel students to turn conviction into meaningful action.

Outside of school, many Heschel students pursue personal projects driven by their passions. Sophomores Anat Suissa and Ethan Wishengrad, along with another student from a different high school, recruited more than ten of their peers to join their fundraising team for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society Student Visionaries of the Year campaign.

LLS is the world's largest nonprofit dedicated to researching and fighting blood cancers. Funds raised by student teams go directly towards supporting patients and advancing research, helping countless individuals affected by blood cancers each year.

During a seven-week campaign, from Jan. 13 until March 6, students emailed their contacts to request donations. Another major

component of the campaign included partnering with organizations to secure sponsorships and receive grants.

Suissa was inspired by her older brother,



Senior Haym Suissa, who led his own team of high school students in raising almost \$70,000 two years ago. "It was really amazing getting to contribute to this amazing cause," Suissa said. "I remember watching my brother lead his own team when he was my age and knew I wanted to do that, too."

"We wanted to make a real-world impact," Wishengrad said. "I felt positive about contributing to a cause I knew would help so

many people. I especially liked working with a group of friends who shared a like-minded interest."

Sophomore Ben Salsberg was one of the students who participated in the campaign. On Feb. 27, he spoke at Hachana about his experience having cancer as a child. "When Ethan asked me to be a part of the team, I knew I had to do it right away," Salsberg said. "I never really had anything in my life that I was passionate about while other kids had sports or clubs. Finally, I had something that I could think about every day and feel like I was actually doing something for the world."

Reflecting on his experience, Salsberg added, "It was everything I had hoped it would be, and people can expect us to be back for the trophy next year."

By the end of the campaign, the team raised \$91,000 before the deadline. Reflecting on the experience, Wishengrad said, "I am very proud of how hard everyone worked. We are all excited to do it again next year. I hope that everyone can find something they are interested in to get involved with."

Photo by Josh Archibald '28, Contributing Photographer

Heschel Welcomes New Exec Board

By Yael Ben Daniel '28, Layout Editor

Did any "looksmaxxing" posters catch your attention in the stairwells? Maybe a flyer about Drake voting in the Heschel elections? Elections for the student government executive board took place on Feb. 25 and 26. The newly elected board for the 2026 to 2027 term consists of five juniors. The new execs shared insights on the process of campaigning and what they are most looking forward to.

Student Affairs Vice President Eli Kotler said, "I was inspired to run when I realized the change I could make; I can improve students' daily life." The desire to create change seems to be a key motivator for voters and students running for exec positions.

Aaron Seltzer, VP of *Hesed* and *Tzedek*, also shared his inspirations. "After two years on council under three different vice presidents, I

began to envision the type of leader I wanted to be," Seltzer said. His goal is to inspire younger council members to have the same dedication to the council that he does.



Though it only lasted a total of four days, the campaigning period was intense and work-saturated for candidates. President Lily Weiss said that although "running was a little bit of a stressful process, every candidate encouraged each other." She added, "It reminded me how supportive this community is."

Most candidates agreed that campaigning can be nerve-wracking, especially speaking in front of the entire student body. Spirit VP Mika Afriat felt that the most stressful part of her campaign was speech-writing. "It was so much pressure to encapsulate all the reasons I love the Spirit Council in just a two-minute speech," Afriat said. During her upcoming time on council, her main objectives are to "live up to our Heschel core values," as well as to implement new traditions.

Looking forward, Programming VP Bella Kalimian said she hopes to "create more space for inter-council collaboration." Kalimian continued, "I'm looking forward to working with the other execs."

Student government involves improving and reimagining initiatives for the broader community. All five execs expressed excitement for their upcoming term, and the Heschel community looks forward to the year ahead.

Photo by Saul Sapadin '28, Photography Editor

Students React to the War in Iran

By Bella Kalimian '27, Editor-in-Chief

After negotiating with Iran for several weeks concerning its possession of and progression toward nuclear weaponry and ballistic missiles, the United States and Israel attacked the country through coordinated air and missile strikes. On Feb. 28, 2026, after the United States had already attacked, President Trump announced the operation via social media.

Earlier this year, a series of protests broke out across Iran demanding a change in government. The Iranian Revolutionary Guard Corps cracked down on such protests, killing thousands of their own people.

In January, on Truth Social, President Trump vowed to aid the demonstrators: "If

Iran shoots and violently kills peaceful protesters, which is their custom, the United States of America will come to their rescue."

According to a poll conducted by NPR, around 44% of Americans support military intervention, while 55% oppose it. Among those grappling with the arguments for and against the war are Heschel students.

Junior Max Lalezarian, a student whose family fled Iran following the Islamic Revolution, said, "As a Persian, I carry two truths in my heart at once. I still dream of the day I can return to Iran, not as a visitor, but as someone coming home to a country that is open, free, and at peace with itself and the world." Lalezarian continued, "Yet history has taught us caution. Wars shake governments, but they do

not always change them. I want to believe this moment could bring something better for the Iranian people, but hope alone is not enough to make it so."

History teacher Steven Weber noted that many Americans hesitate to support the war since they draw connections to the U.S. military intervention in Iraq from 2003-2011, which is widely considered a failure.

Junior Yael Hogege, an Israeli-American student, said, "I'm incredibly grateful that the IDF has the strength to defend its people and secure safety for future generations, and that the United States continues to stand beside us."

Millions worldwide pray for an end to the Islamic Regime and the establishment of a new, democratic government in its place.

Freshmen Experience Their First Spirit Week

By Stella Heymann '29, Staff Writer



Adar, the happiest month in the Jewish calendar, brought joy and celebration to the hallways of the Heschel High School. Spirit Week, an anticipated part of the school year, contributed to the excitement.

This year's Spirit Week started with Heschel Spirit Day (and elections), where students were encouraged to wear Heschel merch and colors while voting for the new student govern-

ment executive board. There was also Rhyme Without Reason Day, Adam Sandler Day, and Pajama Day for Taanit Esther. Spirit week concluded with Purim, which included a festive breakfast, megillah reading, grade activities, a costume contest, and the senior Purim spiel.

After their first Spirit Week, the freshmen were polled on their opinions. 45% of the grade voted. The majority of voters said that their favorite days of Spirit Week were Purim and Rhyme without Reason Day.

"I thought that Rhyme without Reason Day was a huge success," said freshman Leya Oz. "People who didn't really talk to each other before had to work together, brainstorm, compromise and get creative to come up with the best costume."

Several freshmen voted that their favorite Purim costumes were the group of senior boys dressed as different versions of Zev, and the Dance Moms. Many also mentioned that their favorite Rhyme without Reason costumes were Nicki Minaj and Camouflage, Sharpay and Meredith Gray, Fairy Godmother and Frat Brother, and Rabbi Noam and a Poem.

However, most of the freshmen said that their least favorite day of Spirit Week was Adam

Sandler Day.

"I really liked the idea of Adam Sandler Day, but only a few people chose to dress up because of the weather," said freshman Jonah Blumenthal. "In the cold, it is uncomfortable to come to school in shorts like the ones that Adam Sandler wears."

When asked for ideas for future Spirit Week days in the poll, the freshmen had several suggestions.

"I wish we had Anything but a Backpack Day," said freshman Eden Barlev in her poll. Anything but a Backpack Day is a common spirit occasion at other schools, where students carry their school supplies in something other than a backpack.

"One day of Spirit Week should be Dean Day," said freshman Tova Samansky in her response. "Each student could dress up as their grade dean to mimic their style. People will want to participate because this idea is funny while not being too complicated."

In conclusion, the freshmen are excited to see what the Spirit Council will organize for next year's Spirit Week.

Art by Eliya Yehudai '27, Art Editor

"Stranger Things" at Heschel: Inside This Year's Purim Spiel

By Margot Hess '27, Assistant News Editor

In honor of Purim each year, the senior class takes on the task of writing, performing, and filming a spiel that playfully pokes fun at life in the Heschel community.

This year's *Stranger Things*-themed Purim Spiel kept the Heschel High School entertained from start to finish. With teacher impressions and spot-on costumes, the seniors did not miss a beat. Several students in the class even portrayed their own parents, which was a highlight for many in the audience.

For the Freshman class, this was their very first Heschel Purim Spiel.

Freshman Kobi Bregman said, "I understood most of the jokes, some less, but I still found it hilarious." He continued, saying, "I liked Lev's act of Ariela. The crying really portrayed the speeches she has given to my grade."

Students from other grades also shared their favorite moments from the show.

Junior Lily Weiss said that her favorite performance was Juliette Heisler as Stefan. "Juliette acted as Stefan so accurately I could have sworn it was actually him. The accent was on point! I felt like I was watching a recording straight from my English class."

Yet, one question remained: did Stefan himself find the impression to be accurate?

Stefan said, "I thought it was excellent. It was as if she held a mirror up to nature."

Behind the scenes, seniors also reflected on the process of participating in the spiel. Senior Amelie Prevor said, "Shayla, Millie, and Ezra were the ones in charge. I was so impressed by their dedication and effort in making the spiel happen for our grade."

The Purim Spiel continues to be a beloved Heschel tradition. The entire community is grateful to the senior class for the time, creativity, and hard work they poured into bringing this year's production to life.

Senior Bobby Covit Launches New App "Roam"

By Ariel Zeltzer '27, Sports Editor

Heschel senior Bobby Covit has developed an app to encourage people to get outside and explore their neighborhoods.

The app, called Roam, allows users to discover and claim rewards from nearby local businesses simply by walking around their city. Covit calls it the "Pokémon GO for food."

Roam uses a live interactive map that shows rewards available from local merchants

nearby. When users enter a participating store, they can unlock limited-time experiences, such as free coffee.

The goal is to make exploring a city feel more like a game, and to help local businesses attract new customers.

Covit says he is "very into coffee culture" and claims that it is "becoming inaccessible, especially in New York City," mostly due to the uptick in cost.

By rewarding users for visiting locations

in person, the app turns everyday walks into adventures. Junior Noah Margolis says that "whenever [he] goes to out-lunch, especially Peperino, [he] will check the Roam app first."

The platform also benefits small and local businesses. Instead of relying on traditional advertising, shops and cafés can use Roam to place rewards on the map that encourage users to stop in - creating stronger connections between businesses and their communities.

Shattering The Glass Ceiling: An Interview With Head Of School Ariela Dubler

By Sadie Graff '29, Staff Writer

I had the honor of interviewing our head of school, Ariela Dubler, to discuss her journey as a female leader. She was formerly a law professor, and now successfully leads our institution. Here's what she had to say:

What first inspired you to pursue a leadership role in education?

The truth is that it was Heschel that inspired me. I had had some leadership roles prior to this in other places. Heschel's mission spoke to my soul in a way that really nothing else had professionally for me. Although I loved my last job as a law professor before this, the idea of being able to serve and elevate this particular school community is really what inspired me.

Did you have any female mentors or role models who helped guide you in your leadership journey, and if so, who?

I would say the two women who inspired me the most were my mother, who was a very, very inspiring professional leader and who took her leadership and her mentorship very seriously, and Roanna Sharofsky, who preceded me in this job and was the head of school for many, many of the years that my children were here. She has been just an extraordinary mentor and guide for me.

Looking back on your career, were there moments when being a woman shaped your leadership journey in a significant way?

Yeah. For much of my career, I really was one of surprisingly few women in some of the

spaces that I was in, that I was in, especially the professional spaces. So when I started as a law professor at Columbia, there were a handful of senior women and not many junior-level women.

When I went to college, I had some wonderful female professors, but very, very few, actually.

What does it mean to you personally to be a woman in leadership today?

As a woman in leadership, I really do want young women to believe that they can develop whatever skills they want. And they can lead with confidence and humility. I think too often we don't talk about that balance, that women can be excellent partners and guides. And we still live in a world where people question female leadership in different ways than they question male leadership, and I think that is important to recognize and name and challenge those stereotypes.

What impact do you hope your leadership will have on other women in your industry?

I hope that everyone, regardless of whether they're male or female, really take out of my leadership the importance of following your passions and working really hard to lead from a place of integrity and conviction, even when that's hard. Truth be told, I was never supposed to be in this job. I was supposed to be a law professor, and I loved being a law professor. I really did. And I had worked really hard to be a law professor.

And at the same time, there's something inspiring about jumping in to lead something

that you love, even when that was never what you thought you would do.

What do you think is the biggest misconception about women in leadership today?

Listen, on the one hand, I think the world has shifted in dramatic ways, and I think there are many, many inspiring, female leaders that I'm grateful to watch and that I think young people can be grateful to watch. At the same time I think that sometimes people think that women will not be as strong or as decisive or as able to have full lives outside of work and full commitments to their work. And I think we all have to challenge those gender stereotypes.

What do you hope that students at Heschel take away from Women's History this month?

I mainly hope that students take away incredible stories of change. This is an amazing country in the way that groups that have historically not had power have been able to gain power. And I think those stories of change around women's history are super important. At the same time, we must take stories of change and always have alongside them stories of continuity. And at the same time, we should learn from history some of the cautionary tales about the dangers of making assumptions about what people can accomplish along the lines of their sex or gender.

The challenges Dubler faced shows that leadership requires courage and resilience. Her inspiring story reminds us that leadership is not about proving you belong, rather creating a welcoming world for future generations.

Women's History Month: Role Model Spotlight

By Yael Ben Daniel '28, Layout Editor

March is Women's History Month, and the student body is hard at work recognizing it. Clubs such as Women's Empowerment and Women in STEM are taking charge this month with special programs, and Heschel students are celebrating women of the past by sharing the stories of women who inspire them.

Sophomore Nava Kastner, a member of the club, said that "Princess Diana inspires me because of her willingness to break societal norms, especially because of the amount of public pressure she faced."

Lady Diana was one of the most famous royal figures of her time, mainly because of her

focus on humanitarian issues and her refusal to take a backseat to men in the royal family.

Kastner is not the only one to idolize women in politics, as senior Leo Sohn shared that his favorite first lady is Eleanor Roosevelt.

"Although she was only the first lady, she took that title and transformed it from a ceremonial title to a powerful political office. She often pushed her husband to more progressive stances," Sohn said.

Similar to Lady Diana, she stood up for what she believed in and never let gender biases slow her down.

Junior Alex White, president of Women in STEM, said, "I really look up to Ada Lovelace because she was kind of the trailblazer for all

computer science, not just women in programming."

Lovelace is widely considered the world's first computer programmer, among women and men. "She did anything a man could," White continued.

At *Hachana* on March 6, faculty advisor of WEC Jodi Posner spoke about the importance of recognizing women this month. Apart from the three women mentioned above, she credited many other powerful and overlooked women, such as Sally Ride, for their contributions to society. It was the first of hopefully many schoolwide moments to celebrate Women's History Month.

Freshmen Receive Out-Lunch Privileges

By Jonah Blumenthal '29 and Daniel Olownia '29, Staff Writers

At the start of second semester, the freshman class was given the privilege of having out-lunch once a week. Students who previously paid upperclassmen to buy them food during out-lunch were eager to finally leave the building themselves.

The freshmen decided Tuesday would be their designated out-lunch day. Freshman Aviv Weinberg said, "Tuesday is the longest day and [I] would like a break to go out and get the food [I] want to eat." Other students said that there are disadvantages that come with their out-lunch privilege, as it adds a lot to their spending.

Students claim there are some days when

they go to the Heschel cafeteria and are unhappy with the selection available to them. They also note that it is difficult to manage their out-lunch time with the start of the following period and are cautious of the penalty for being late, which includes having the next out-lunch taken away.

Many freshmen also compare their schedule to the upperclassmen, who are allowed to go out for lunch more often. Some freshmen say they look forward to being able to go out more than once a week, while others wish they could have more out-lunches now.

Even though it is only once a week, out-lunch has become something many students look forward to, and has started to feel like a small weekly tradition. Groups of friends often walk together to different places nearby, and it gives them a chance to socialize and take a

break from the school day.

Some of the most popular places freshmen go are Peperino for pizza, Common Address for coffee and cafe food, and Kossar's for bagels, as they are quick and make it easy to get back to school on time. Other students dine at places like Suram or Friedmans, which may take a little longer but are preferred by some students.

According to freshman Adam Reifeld, Common Address is his favorite place to go to because, "Their ice latte is perfect and gets you powered up for the second half of the day." Despite the complaints, the freshmen are very grateful for the opportunity to go out and get the food they love once a week.

Five Items You Need This Spring

By Gila Lehon '26, Opinion Editor

After a brutal winter, it is finally time to strip off some layers and get ready for the warmth of spring. With a new season comes new necessities. You might be thinking: Where do I start? Not to worry, this list should help you prepare for the beautiful spring season.

Rain boots. Often seen as superfluous, the importance of rain boots cannot be overstated. Many believe that rain boots are unnecessary and can be replaced by a different shoe. However, this is not the case. There is nothing worse than showing up to school drenched from a flash spring shower, knowing your feet will never dry before the end of the day. Warm weather makes winter boots too hot for comfort, so the only reasonable choice is a pair of squeaky rain boots.

A light jacket. One great struggle of the changing seasons is figuring out what to wear. In the spring, there is often a chill in the air in the morning, but by the afternoon, the sun is up, and it feels like a hot summer day. This calls for a versatile top layer: a light jacket. Whether a

trench coat, bomber, or mini-puffer, a light jacket allows you to stay comfortable without bearing the burden of a heavy coat. Furthermore, light jackets can be worn with layers underneath, so you can adjust for whatever the weather you find as the day progresses.

A picnic blanket. There is nothing quite like spending a warm spring day on a grassy lawn in the park. To make sure you are prepared, a picnic blanket is an essential in your springtime toolbox. A proper picnic blanket will protect you from wet grass and will act as a perfect cushion.

A watch. When life feels so rosy, it can be easy to lose track of time. However, spring is no summer. In order to remain in touch with reality, get yourself a watch to stay

on track. Any watch will do the trick, but not a phone, as spring is a time to get outside and take a healthy break from scrolling through the deep depths of the internet.

Allegra D. It would be naive not to mention a treacherous reality of the spring season: allergies. In order to combat this nuisance, I recommend preparing with your favorite allergy medication. My personal favorite is Allegra D, a special version of Allegra that requires going to the pharmacist. Trust me, the extra effort is worth it.

You are now well-equipped to tackle the approaching warm weather. Enjoy!



Art by Aaron Koffman '27, Assistant Art Editor

Heschel/Ramaz Joint Hockey Team Finish Off Impressive Season

By Lev Dubler-Furman '26, Editor-in-Chief

On March 8, the Heschel and Ramaz hockey team faced off against SAR in the Yeshiva League Championship. While the team lost 9-2, it was an impressive finish to Heschel's second year fielding a hockey team.

Despite the loss, fan excitement was through the roof. Over 70 Heschel students made the trip to Englewood and came out to support the team!

And their presence was felt. Cheers echoed throughout the bleachers and the plexiglass lining the rink shook as students banged on the panels.

"Despite the loss, it was truly an electric environment," said senior Haym Suissa, who led the effort to convince students to come.

After the game, Heschel's supporters stormed the ice to celebrate the season with the players and to gather around senior Noah Archibald, the team's only graduating Heschelian.

"SAR has a lot of graduating seniors,

while we are losing only one," said junior Noam Bar-Chama, one of the stars of this year's team. "We can win it all next year."

year, when the team will hopefully get their own Heschel-branded jerseys!



Win or lose, the hockey championship was an amazing example of school spirit and pride. Make sure to bring that same energy next

Photo by Saul Sapadin '28, Contributing Photographer

Heschel Baseball Going to Ohio Baseball Tournament

By Jake Rothenberg '27, Assistant Sports Editor

The Heschel Heat baseball team will travel to Columbus, Ohio, to play in the Judith Weintraub tournament on May 17 and will return to NYC on May 19.

This will be the team's third time ever in the tournament and its first appearance in over five years.

More than 300 Jewish day school athletes from 11 states across the U.S. will travel to the Columbus Torah Academy to display their Jewish pride and to compete in hopes of winning a trophy.

In prior years, the administration and

baseball coaches were hesitant to facilitate a trip to Ohio because many of the teams they would face are ones they already play in the city. That said, an extra push from the senior captains finally convinced them to allow the team to attend.

Catcher and senior Ari Vogel explained, "We scheduled a meeting with Rabbi Noam, and since the tournament is taking place at a time when seniors do not have any major work, he was more on board with us going."

Senior pitcher Noah Gurwitz reflected on his excitement for the trip. "I am excited to bond with my friends and finally go on a baseball trip with them," he said.

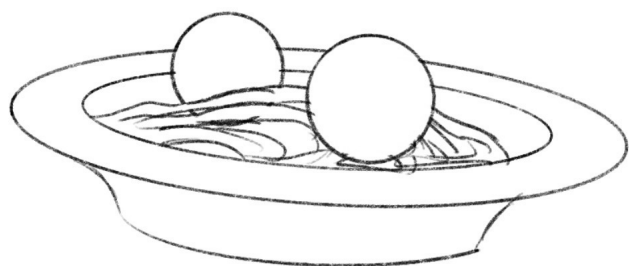
He added that the trip will benefit the team, saying, "We will get a lot of extra reps, which creates chemistry and overall improvement."

Heschel is also approaching the start of its season in New York. The team added new players Eli Kotler, Lee Fleischman, Elijah Cassidy, Dylan Becker, and Daniel Olownia to an already-talented roster.

The Heat had a disappointing loss in the first round of last year's playoffs, but with the added players, a lack of injuries, and development over the year, Heschel has higher expectations for the upcoming season.

Casa Louie Will Change Out-Lunch Experience for Gluten-Free Students

By Maya Gleser '27, Staff Writer



Finding food during out-lunch near Heschel is usually easy, unless you are gluten-free. This spring, a new Italian restaurant called Casa Louie will open a block away from Heschel. While plenty of students are excited about another lunch option, it matters most to

those who follow gluten-free diets.

Since Harry's Table closed, Italian options within walking distance from Heschel have been fairly limited, aside from Peperino. Even there, gluten-free choices are inconvenient as students have to order an entire gluten-free pie rather than just a slice.

Additionally, when nearby supermarkets and restaurants don't label their menus clearly, gluten-free customers must constantly ask about ingredients, or even skip meals entirely, to play it safe.

Friedman's, the comfort-food restaurant just across the street from Heschel, is a reliable choice. However, as gluten-free junior Sydney Kaufthal said, "Going to the same restaurant for lunch all the time can become repetitive."

Casa Louie will fill the gap. According

to its online menu, many dishes can be made gluten-free, and gluten-free items will be clearly marked. As someone who lives in the neighborhood and follows a gluten-free diet, I know how relieving it feels to walk into a restaurant without overthinking.

For customers who must carefully navigate restaurant menus due to dietary restrictions, this type of transparency makes a significant difference. When Casa Louie opens this spring, it will not only expand Italian food options near Heschel, but it will give gluten-free students the chance to enjoy lunch with friends without the stressful mental checklist.

Art by Eliya Yehudai '27, Art Editor

Warm Weather Offers Hope for Students

By Serena Yunis '27, Assistant Opinion Editor

The devastating chill brought by this year's winter weather was colder than it's been in years. Temperatures dropped to 3° in February, and reports showed that at times New York City was colder than Antarctica. However, as spring approaches, the brutality of the cold has diminished and been replaced by the warmth of a new season.

Junior Rocky Furst said, "I am excited for the warmer weather to come in as I think it will make my post-school walk to the subway much more enjoyable."

Students who walk from the subway to and from school have been battered by the harsh winds and snowy days during the winter; spring will bring more peaceful and comfortable commutes, thus improving the moods of many students.

Additionally, students' out-lunch experiences will become more delightful. The winter weather prevented many students from going outside. To many, it did not seem worth it to go out in such bitter conditions. This led to students being hungry and irritated, cooped up in school all day.

Freshman Tali Siegel said, "As a freshman, I have only had out-lunch in the cold, which has not been such a great experience; the cold makes it unbearable to go outside. I cannot wait until the weather gets hotter and I can enjoy being out in the fresh air without worrying about the cold."

In warm weather, students can enjoy sitting on the grass field in Waterline Square, surrounded by their friends and basking in the

warm sun. It becomes a treat to walk outside on a beautiful spring day, rather than a chilly task of simply getting food.

The shift from the frigid cold to the vibrant spring transforms students' state of mind. Spring fosters a serene and uplifting energy that permeates the student body.

Art by Aaron Koffman '27, Assistant Art Editor



History Department Hosts Iran Info Session: Let's Make This Routine

By Hannah Wurzburger '26, Editor-in-Chief

Amidst the constant flow of fake news and the biased reporting spread across all forms of media, how is anyone expected to reliably learn what's happening in the world and why?

Following the recent outbreak of the US-Israel war against Iran, social studies teachers hinted in their classes that they might create an opportunity for students to learn more. Just a couple of days later, on March 5, the department held information sessions during lunch that were open to the entire Heschel High School. The sessions began by focusing on the history of US-Iranian relations dating back to 1953, led to learning about current efforts to deter Iranian progress in building nuclear weapons, and ended with questions from attendees.

I walked into the session expecting to find a small cohort of like-minded peers who wanted to learn more. I was delighted to find

that there were a variety of eager people, including teachers and other faculty across all departments and students across various grades. Attendees held varying opinions on the conflict, and what I most appreciated is that we all had

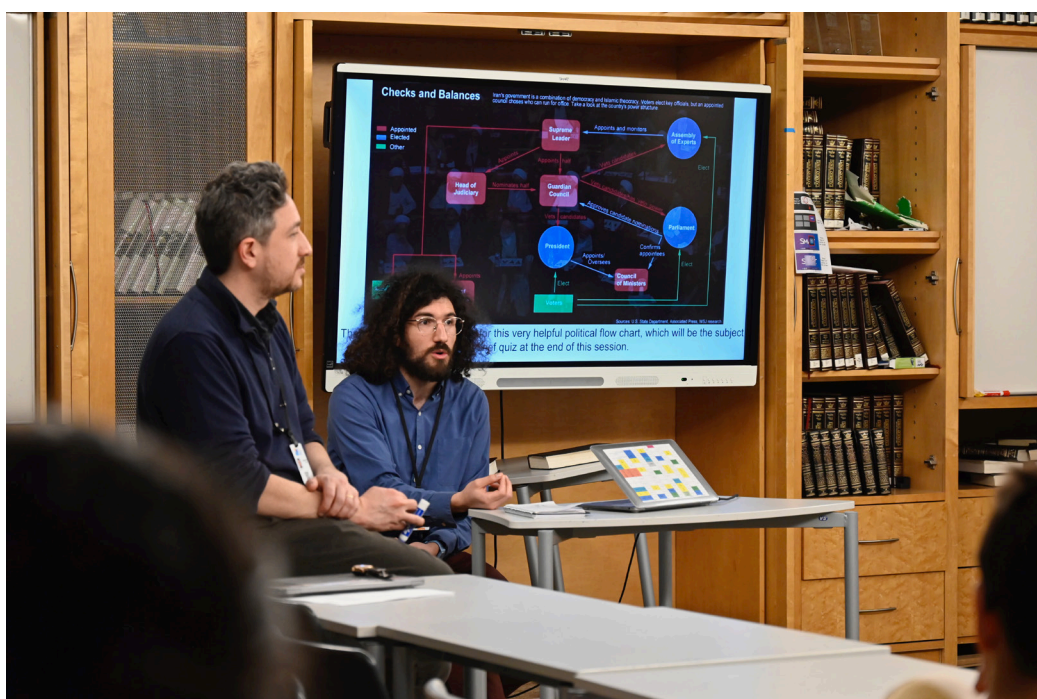
There is so much misinformation on social media that makes simple learning an unreasonably difficult task; students must spend unfeasible amounts of time fact-checking and maintaining a steadfast radar for bias. Sometimes, skewed news seeps into consciousness so subtly via social media posts that it's hard to detect in the first place and even harder to ignore.

Well-rounded recaps about current events should be routine additions to our schedule. Whether weekly, monthly, or on a case-by-case basis, these sessions provide valuable knowledge in a convenient manner, fostering a more well-informed student body with the ability to think critically. Making sessions optional and ungraded ensures that attendees are genuinely interested and are learning for the sake of learning.

Thank you to the entire history department for providing this

meaningful and important opportunity!

Photo by Gabe Godin



differing amounts of prior knowledge. It was an authentic period of dialogue; we asked questions and learned to get a better grasp on the events around us.







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