



Hava Nashira 2022

INTENSIVE BLOCK ONE

The Craft of Songwriting

Facilitated by Elana Arian

All levels are welcome! We will think together about a wide range of songwriting considerations: approaches to text, melodic techniques, song structures, writing lyrics, and cultivating our own, unique, creative voices.

Songleading Foundations

Facilitated by Eric Hunker

Geared towards early career Songleaders (0-5 years experience). We will dive into the bones of what makes songleading so powerful and how to facilitate using your gifts. We'll focus on technique and some repertoire building. This Intensive will be hands-on and participatory so please bring instruments if you'd like but most importantly your voice!

Build It And... They Won't Necessarily Come

Facilitated by Craig Taubman

Just because you create a great program, initiative or spectacular service does not mean the people will come. This workshop will take a look at three steps toward growing healthy synagogues. Join Craig as we explore and discuss how to build community, how to build success and how to build consensus. Change is never easy...we just hope to make it a little less hard!

Azamra: Leaning Into Songs of/to/for/about G&d

Facilitated by Cantor Ellen Dreskin

A quick deep-dive into using song to open conversation about one's own relationship with YHVH. From how we pronounce it to where we find it and what it might look/sound/feel like, there's probably a song for that. Lots of singing, lots of sharing. What's your G&d-song today?

One Story + One Song = Weekly Revelation In Your Hands

Facilitated by Ellen Allard and Shira Kline

Have you ever wanted to write an original story or compose a song to bring a Torah portion to life? Come try your hand at it with Shira and Ellen who have been immersed in this process since the beginning of the pandemic. Their “Shabbat ShaMorning” online worship experience (as featured on NPR) inspired them to create a full year’s Torah cycle of relevant weekly stories and powerful songs. In today’s workshop, they will teach you their method of weekly creation. Torah study meets imagination and inspiration; the art of composition through story, and story through song. You’ll learn to utilize this process on the spot! You’ll have a chance to work in partnership or on your own to develop your artistic expression of these narratives. Dive in with us and add your unique voice to this creative process.

Leveling the Praying Field

Facilitated by Merri Lovinger Arian

Adding new liturgical melodies to your worship has the potential to add energy and meaning to the prayer experience. One of the challenges worship leaders face is how to teach a new melody within the service, without compromising the prayer moment. Additionally, teaching new melodies within worship requires different techniques than teaching in a song session or a classroom. Let’s explore these and other challenges together and along the way, learn some new melodies.

Breathing New Life: Hasidic Melodies for Transformation

Facilitated by Rena Branson

Nigunim, or chanted melodies, can allow us to express emotions that transcend language, transforming us in the process. In a supportive and non-judgmental environment, we will explore this process together through a sample of esoteric nigunim from the Chabad Chassidische tradition. ChaBaD, or חב"ד, is an acronym for Chochma—the seedling of bright wisdom, Binah—taking root in deeper understanding, and Da’at—intimate knowledge that bears fruit in practice. Chabad nigunim are often acrobatic exercises that help refine our souls to do their holy tasks in the world. We’ll cultivate focus, patience, compassion, and perseverance as we stretch to let these complex nigunim blossom through us, and feel ourselves blossoming through them. The sacred song and silence can guide us beyond our everyday mental chatter, returning us to ourselves and our communities with renewed strength for the work of tikkun olam.

How Our Music Changed American Judaism

Facilitated by Rabbis Dan Frelander and Ken Chasen

The music of Jewish youth movements and camps have had a major impact on the spiritual life of American Judaism. The musical boundaries between synagogues and camps, once totally distinct environments have become blurred.

How did this happen? How does music become “traditional” or mainstream in camp and synagogue settings? Is there a unique musical and spiritual difference between camp and synagogue repertoire? We will explore how YOU can think about the role of new musical styles in a variety of settings, and what it might take to make new melodies as important a part as the more comfortably familiar tunes in any space you're in.

INTENSIVE BLOCK TWO

Songs for Self-Compassion & Collective Healing

Facilitated by Rena Branson

Everyone can use more self-compassion, and healing the world starts with healing ourselves! Accompanied by Rachel Chang on guitar and harmony, Rena will teach original repertoire from their forthcoming album, weaving together pieces of Jewish liturgy with new English poetry and prayers for love, ease, and justice. Please feel free to show up in whatever mood you happen to find yourself in! Quiet listening is welcome; dancing is welcome; shuffling (sleeping) is welcome—come be with us however is most nourishing for you.

How to Build a Musical Curriculum for our Elementary Age Children

Facilitated by Shira Kline

Taking a look at essential Jewish themes as well as our children’s diverse learning modes and ever-changing environmental context, we’ll build a music curriculum to meet them where they are developmentally, socially, and spiritually. Repertoire will include a deep dive into a broad review of seasonal, cultural, and prayerful music. These are the songs that tell the stories of our people. A combo of practical theory and repertoire.

Braiding Our Untangled Knots: Making Ana B'koach Prayer Beads

Facilitated by Koach Baruch Frazier

Join us as we learn about, take a deeper text dive, sing melodies for this text, and make prayer beads with this ancient incantation, so we can carry this prayer and intention with us wherever we go.

Songwriting: Methods and Muses

Facilitated by Eric Hunker

All experience levels are welcome. We will be exploring the incredible world of songwriting together. As a part of this intensive we’ll be introduced to different songwriting methods. You’ll have the opportunity to dive into the creative process and walk away with the beginnings of a new song.

Calibrating The Change: How To Be A “Worship Architect” For Your Community

Facilitated by Rabbi Ken Chasen and Cantor Rosalie Will

The successful evolution of worship patterns in a community is much like the work of an architect; it requires long-range vision, imagination and partnership... but also careful listening, deft pacing and creative communication between stakeholders. In this session, we will investigate the best practices for crafting a worship vision with professional and lay partners, as well as the whole community – and for achieving broad buy-in. If you want to be a part of a worship team that does more than purchase new siddurim or establish photography policies, come learn how to be a worship architect for your community!

Glamour in the Grammar: A Little Liturgical Hebrew Goes a Long Way

Facilitated by Cantor Ellen Dreskin

Energize your own prayer practice and discover gems to share with others through an exploration of basic Hebrew in the siddur. Verbs/nouns, singular/plural, root recognition, and reflection on the connection between grammar, theology, and the act of prayer itself.

Praying with Your Instrument

Facilitated by Elana Arian

Bring your flutes, mandolins, and trombones as we explore best practices of incorporating instruments into worship. Or if you work with a band and don't play, you're welcome too! We will become a "pickup band" as we think about how to approach adding new sounds to worship with the same intentionality as we do crafting all other aspects of services. We will consider both sides of the equation - both playing as an instrumentalist in worship, as well as how to effectively communicate and lead other musicians to create a prayerful, meaningful whole.

A Winning Combination: Songs That Kids Love + Songs That Build Skills

Facilitated by Ellen Allard

It's a music teacher's dream to rock a repertoire of songs that students ask for again and again. And that dream is magnified when those very same songs contribute to building skills that are essential to early childhood development. Join Ellen for a rousing intensive of songs that will remind you why you chose to teach music in the first place.