

INTRODUCTIONS

Etta King: Welcome everyone! Can you hear me?

Elana Kanter: Hi Etta, Hope you're well eally good sound coming through. Elana

Miriam Cantor-Stone: Hi everyone! My name is Miriam Cantor-Stone, I'm the Education Assistant here at JWA, and one of my childhood heroes is Julie Andrews.

Elana Kanter: Hi Rabbi Elana Kanter from the Women's Jewish Learning Center Phoenix AZ apologizing in advance that I'll have to leave a bit early.

Elana Kanter: Yes to all of the above ;)

Etta King: My name is Etta King. I am the Education Program Manager at the Jewish Women's Archive in Brookline, MA. As a kid, I always looked up to Harriet Tubman and Sally Ride.

Ellie Gettinger: Hi, this is Ellie from the Jewish Museum Milwaukee

Jamie Lake: Hi. I am the assistant director at Camp Chi (JCC Chicago's overnight camp).

Marilyn Heiss: Hi all, I'm Marilyn Heiss, an educator in San Francisco

Lauren Trexler: I'm Lauren Trexler, the education director at Congregation Kol Ami in Vancouver, Washington.

Ellie Gettinger: Ruth Bader Ginsberg and Frances Hogdeson Burnett

Marilyn Heiss: Amelia Earhart was my hero

Marilyn Heiss: She also wrote "The Little Princess"

Valerie Lustgarten: Hi, can you see/hear me?

Janice Sellers: Hi, I'm Janice Sellers. I'm a Jewish genealogy educator in Oakand, California.

Toby Koritsky: Hi

Kate O'Brien: Hello, y'all!

Etta King: Can everyone see the intro slide?

Toby Koritsky: I'm Toby, I am DOE at temple sinai in RI. Hmm childhood heroes- Golda Meir

Kate O'Brien: I am the Director of Education at the Workmen's Circle in NYC.

Michal Morris Kamil: Hi, thank you, great to be here too! Calling from San Francisco, I am an education consultant who has recently worked with all the Jewish day schools in the Bay Area on Israel education curriculum, called BASIS. My heroes are jewish educators, who have to withstand serious challenges and not oo much incentivization but are passionate people committed to Jewish continuity and peoplehood!

Yoni Siden: Hi. I'm Yoni Siden, Director of Youth Programs at Beth Emet Synagogue in Evanston, IL (near Chicago).

Valerie Lustgarten: Educational Consultant working with The Paradigm Project, I'm in South Florida

Michal Morris Kamil: can we have a contact list of participants? that would

be so great to continue conversations!

Michal Morris Kamil: great!

Valerie Lustgarten: Will we get the slides?

WHAT DO WE TEACH DURING HANUKKAH?

Hannah Temple: increasing our joy in the winter months

Valerie Lustgarten: We talk about light

Marilyn Heiss: Our holiday of light in darkness

Michal Morris Kamil: currently we speak about 'narratives' of the chasg

Hannah Temple: decolonization.

WHAT MAKES SOMEONE A HERO?

Etta King: [http:](http://linoit.com/users/jwaeducation/canvases/What%20makes%20a%20someone%20a%20hero%3F)

[//linoit.com/users/jwaeducation/canvases/What%20makes%20a%20someone%20a%20hero%3F](http://linoit.com/users/jwaeducation/canvases/What%20makes%20a%20someone%20a%20hero%3F)

Valerie Lustgarten: I cant see other peoples posts

Miriam Cantor-Stone: Try clicking refresh on your browser if you can't see other posts!

lisa cohen: Hi Lisa Jean at Temple Sinai - ...sadly work computer does not have sound - perhaps no speakers...

Ellie Gettinger: They provide a way of modeling behavior

lisa cohen: saw that is recorded so will try to get my director to give me time on a different computer where i can at least replay!

Etta King: Lisa , maybe headphones will work?

lisa cohen: see if i can scare some up

IS IT IMPORTANT TO TEACH ABOUT HEROES? WHY OR WHY NOT? DO WE TEACH ABOUT JEWISH HEROES? WHY?

Valerie Lustgarten: Heroes and their narratives are learning opportunities

Michal Morris Kamil: because they provide an opportunity to scale what we value and dont in people

Toby Koritsky: It shows Jewish values in real action

Janice Sellers: Stories of heroes help teach what behaviors and ideals are respected in a society.

Simone Picker: We can learn great things from our Jewish heroes...Nishmah in St. Louis celebrates Chag HaBanot for mothers and daughters on the 7th night of Chanukah to recognize female heroes

Marilyn Heiss: Showiing non-stereotypically heros & heroines gives our students a ay to see themselves as potential heros

Yoni Siden: I think that the narratives are learning opportuniteis, but sometimes we ignore their flaws in an attempt to think of them as great. I want my students to understand nuance but that is sometimes lost with the big Heros (capital H).

Lauren Trexler: Teaching our students what is a mensch and how those

qualities are seen in our leaders.

Michal Morris Kamil: heroes are always in historical and sociological contexts- should we be asking are heroes timeless?

Kate O'Brien: Help kids understand that though they are small they have power alone and in community. Help them imagine themselves in a new light. No pun intended.

Miriam Cantor-Stone: Great pun, Kate! :)

Michal Morris Kamil: Yoni-that's what I love about anti heroes!

LEARNING THE JUDITH STORY

lisa cohen: Judith - the widow who wined and dined and then chopped off the head in the ten Judith?

lisa cohen: is there a call in number to listen in?

Miriam Cantor-Stone: Sorry, Lisa, there's no call in number, but you'll be able to listen to the recording afterwards!

Kate O'Brien: With deception, wisdom, love, and murder. Fantastic!

Marilyn Heiss: Of course, the story of the oil is one the rabbi's made up, as opposed to Judith, which is documented.

lisa cohen: the art of creative non-violence - but perhaps not classic non-violence with the head chopped off!

Janice Sellers: Will we also get a copy of the chat log?

lisa cohen: perhaps being creative and discovering options where none are easily apparent is the true creativity of a hero and as such we are all capable of being heroes!

lisa cohen: sort of like not waiting for miracles but working to bring them forth!

Ellie Gettinger: fried cheese! AMAZING

Kate O'Brien: Delish!

Miriam Cantor-Stone: I agree, Ellie!!

Miriam Cantor-Stone: I'm thinking of adding cheese to my latkes this year!

Toby Koritsky: I make cheese latkes with cottage cheese every year

Ellie Gettinger: (i do bleu cheese latkes--)

IS MIRIAM A HERO? WHY OR WHY NOT? WOULD YOU TEACH ABOUT HER?

Michal Morris Kamil: issues of recognition of the sources, and Judith then is a byproduct of a bigger question of the canon and what goes in and what stays out....

Toby Koritsky: We have talked about her a bit with 7th grade. I wonder if a question would be what did she think of or try first before the violent step?

Ellie Gettinger: I think it is left out because of the violence. Think about the elements that are left out of the traditional Chanuka story or out of the Purim story...we whitewash a little

Kate O'Brien: Depends on the version of the story and the

ages/developmental levels of my kids. I would LOVE to teach this to my adult students. It would be like buried treasure.

Marilyn Heiss: yes, she took action that made a difference -- but being a woman was probably a big reason why the Maccabean story becomes prevalent.

lisa cohen: i think perhaps we are afraid of any war-like implications of chanukah - living in the diaspora - we are more trying to 'fit in' to the dominant cultural seasonal holidays rather than honoring heroes or even a long guerrilla war like the revolutionary war where ordinary citizens rose up against those treating them unjustly from afar!

Marilyn Heiss: But the Maccabees story isn't in the canon either.

Lauren Trexler: i think it's left out because of violence but teaching about war is also violent. it probably is left out b/c she's a woman ... i think you could teach this with any age, you just tell it differently

Michal Morris Kamil: and to continue- his-story?

Elana Kanter: I think she's a hero in terms of being brave and saving when the men of her town were afraid. But like so many ancient women, she had to use deception in order to accomplish her end.

Michal Morris Kamil: sexuality in purim story as well....

Valerie Lustgarten: Sexuality in many stories

Hannah Temple: might be interesting to compare to story of Dinah.

Michal Morris Kamil: How do we deal with persona's? what facts do we choose to present about people and what we don't-ourselves? about others?

Michal Morris Kamil: yup

Valerie Lustgarten: yes

BREAKOUT ROOM—CLARA LEMLICH SHAVELSON

Janice Sellers: Yup!

Yoni Siden: Yep!

Elana Kanter: yes

Lauren Trexler: yes

Hannah Temple: yes

Simone Picker: yes

Marilyn Heiss: got ya

Valerie Lustgarten: yes

Valerie Lustgarten: yes

Simone Picker: yes

Hannah Temple: yep!

Valerie Lustgarten: done

WAS CLARA A HERO? WHY OR WHY NOT? HOW IS SHE SIMILAR/DIFFERENT TO THE BIBLICAL JUDITH? TO THE MACCABEES? WHAT VALUES DO YOU THINK WERE MOST IMPORTANT TO HER BASED ON WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED ABOUT HER?

Valerie Lustgarten: She took a stand, brave

Marilyn Heiss: She cut through the bullshit

Valerie Lustgarten: Was persistent

Simone Picker: she took huge risks

Marilyn Heiss: Had to stand up to men

Elana Kanter: They were both no nonsense women who do what had to be done

Lauren Trexler: she didn't back down on her beliefs

Marilyn Heiss: She was obviously well spoken, especially considering her immigrant background

Simone Picker: she was forced to take the more difficult path, and she took it

Valerie Lustgarten: Like Judith, self-motivated

Valerie Lustgarten: self-directed

Marilyn Heiss: Like Judith, she was the igniter for action

Valerie Lustgarten: obvious leadership qualities

Simone Picker: like Judith, she felt that making change was her responsibility

Hannah Temple: she was in actual physical battle, putting herself in danger

Yoni Siden: She created a place for herself at the table when others would not give them to her

Valerie Lustgarten: women followed

Lauren Trexler: Judith and Clara took action, weren't just talk

Elana Kanter: like the Maccabees few against the stronger at least in the power/money arena

Valerie Lustgarten: yes

Valerie Lustgarten: Equality

Marilyn Heiss: fair working conditions

Marilyn Heiss: voices must be heard

Simone Picker: that helping the situation for women would positively impact society overall

Valerie Lustgarten: yes to teaching about her

Valerie Lustgarten: She didn't get the entire job done, but sparked change

Lauren Trexler: I think she'd be very relevant -- adults and kids -- I don't think many know a lot about this time in history

Marilyn Heiss: Yes, teaching about women like Clara and Rose Schneiderman helps me impress upon my students that if these women immigrants can make a difference, so can they.

Elana Kanter: Yes - such an inspiring story

Janice Sellers: Clara's story reminds me about the kosher meat strike.

Hannah Temple: exciting to teach about this in the context of the work happening in the US right now by domestic workers, mostly immigrant women, who are changing their conditions.

Marilyn Heiss: The kosher meat strike is a great story and great to teach

Marilyn Heiss: Also, it was the women in the Senate who go together to help stop the shutdown :)

Valerie Lustgarten: As an Early Childhood educator you integrate Judaic and secular learning. I'm curious to know if this would be taught in Judaics or secular studies classes

Valerie Lustgarten: for older students

Yoni Siden: I'd love to talk with my students about how no one gave Clara permission to do what she did. She just DID it! We could talk about the importance of knowing our values and being true to ourselves.

Yoni Siden: And actually building those skills in the classroom

Hannah Temple: for older students, as we're talking about sexuality and expectations of gender

Hannah Temple: it can be nice to talk about how although clara was not many of her contemporaries were lesbian women

BREAKOUT ROOM—JUDY FRIEZE WRIGHT

Michal Morris Kamil: hi!

Ellie Gettinger: hi

WAS JUDY A HERO? WHY OR WHY NOT? HOW IS SHE SIMILAR/DIFFERENT TO THE BIBLICAL JUDITH? TO THE MACCABEES? WHAT VALUES DO YOU THINK WERE MOST IMPORTANT TO HER BASED ON WHAT YOU HAVE LEARNED ABOUT HER?

Ellie Gettinger: yep

Toby Koritsky: I think she was. She thought something was important and acted on it - not just talk

Ellie Gettinger: She is definitely a hero. She did something that others were unwilling to do, in pursuit of strong convictions

Michal Morris Kamil: Heroes are created by those who put them on a platform to become heroes-they have to have the confidence and recognition of others to be labelled heroes

lisa cohen: So is it just standing up for our beliefs or convictions when we know there will be consequences that makes us heroes?

Michal Morris Kamil: cant be an anonymous hero

Michal Morris Kamil: time and circumstance

lisa cohen: were the fighters of the warsaw ghetto heroes even though many are anonymous?

Ellie Gettinger: I think you can be an anonymous hero

Michal Morris Kamil: question: are heroes people who have nothing to lose?

lisa cohen: perhaps it is the conscious act of choosing to stand with your integrity even though there will be consequences...- there is probably an element of CHOOSING vs HOPELESSNESS

Toby Koritsky: I think she had things to lose but was willing to go past that and she felt it was worth it - part of the decision making process

lisa cohen: that makes a hero - our choice of actions in a situation

Michal Morris Kamil: same in the uprisings in the Holocaust-they had nothing to lose...so maybe we should be categorizing 'types' of heroes

lisa cohen: perhaps by being silent you could slip through the cracks but to stand up to power and focus attention upon yourself you are guaranteed to be a target -

Ellie Gettinger: Both would be a sense of community

Michal Morris Kamil: Jewishly-kdushat hashem or kdushat chayim? are they in opposition?

Ellie Gettinger: Right

lisa cohen: I think as small as they were people made heroic choices - go through and try to survive could be heroic, fight back could be heroic, pretend to comply could be heroic...

Michal Morris Kamil: kdushat chayim means she would have done everything to preserve herself and save lives-but she risked it because of identity and ultimate connection with Jewish faith

Michal Morris Kamil: Judy's strength was based in her bus community-the members were heroic-

Michal Morris Kamil: that's a point-Judith had a servant-was her 'middle class background' a factor?

lisa cohen: integrating a paddy wagon was heroic?

BRINGING IT BACK TO OUR STUDENTS: HOW DOES WHAT I LEARNED HELP ME UNDERSTAND MYSELF?

Michal Morris Kamil: why don't I do? not just why I do?

Valerie Lustgarten: This is a great protocol to use with educators at school, before they even begin to teach a holiday, in a PL session.

Valerie Lustgarten: Makes them think

Michal Morris Kamil: tikkun olam, service learning

Michal Morris Kamil: good opportunity for civics education

Valerie Lustgarten: I have to go, thank you this was great

lisa cohen: We often make a Mitzvah to think about dedication - but I like linking 'dedication' to those personal choices we make as we go through life to make the world a better place to do tikkun ha Olam, to do mitzvot and to be righteous...I like adding that 'dedication to the mix!'

Miriam Cantor-Stone: Thank you, Valerie!

Michal Morris Kamil: chance also for roots study of war generations and involvements-and current parental involvement in Jewish/ humanitarian activity-intergenerational dialogues

Marilyn Heiss: What does it mean to stand up for something you believe in

Michal Morris Kamil: celebrate the volunteer!

Yoni Siden: Our high school students are having a community organizing training this Fall. Judith and friends could be a great complement to our

workshops to explore aspects of power, privilege, and self-interest

Michal Morris Kamil: celebrate the volunteer!

Michal Morris Kamil: This has been a great experience and mode of learning and engagement to replicate!

Kate O'Brien: Thank you, Etta! This has been so gratifying!

lisa cohen: may those of us involved in education help to raise mensches - those who can make hard choices to do good in teh world!

Toby Koritsky: a new avenue - thanks so much

Lauren Trexler: I got so many good ideas from this today! Thanks!

Miriam Cantor-Stone: That's wonderful, Lauren! Thanks for telling us!

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alison morse: thinking of doing a parent panel so students can learn about heroic efforts that our parents are making in the community.

Michal Morris Kamil: Thank you both and look forward to hearing from you and to connect with everyone in other opportunities in virtual (and real space!)

Miriam Cantor-Stone: Happy Thanksgiving!

Simone Picker: thank you!

Jamie Lake: Thank you.

Etta King: <http://jwa.org/teach/profdev/webinars>

Marilyn Heiss: Great, thanks!

alison morse: great job Etta!

Yoni Siden: Thanks folks!

Etta King: Thank you! THanks for coming!