

The Melton Centre for Jewish Education  
Professional Learning Days – Memory and Education  
General Program

**Date: 24.4.2022 – 6.00 PM (Israel)**

**Bitter Reckoning: Israel Tries Holocaust Survivors as Nazi Collaborators (1950-1972)**

Key Speaker: Prof. Dan Porat

**Summary:**

After its establishment, the State of Israel prosecuted and jailed dozens of Holocaust survivors who had served as camp kapos or ghetto police under the Nazis. Hebrew University professor Dan Porat brings to light more than three dozen little-known trials, held between the years 1950 and 1972, of survivors charged with Nazi collaboration. Scouring police investigation files and trial records, he found accounts of Jewish policemen and camp functionaries who harassed, beat, robbed, and even murdered other Jews. But as the trials exposed the tragic experiences of the kapos, over time the courts and the public shifted from seeing them as evil collaborators to victims themselves, and the fervor to prosecute them abated.

Porat shows how these trials changed Israel's understanding of the Holocaust and explores how the suppression of the trial records—long classified by the state—affected history and memory. Sensitive to the devastating options confronting those who chose to collaborate, Porat invites us to rethink our ideas of complicity and justice and to consider what it means to be a victim in extraordinary circumstances.

**About Prof. Dan Porat**

Dan Porat is the Unterberg Chair in Jewish Social and Educational History at the Seymour Fox School of Education, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. His *Bitter Reckoning: Israel Tries Holocaust Survivors as Nazi Collaborators* which was a Jewish Book was published by Harvard University Press and was a Jewish Book Award Finalist.

**[For registration](#)**

**Date: 25.4.2022 – 6.00 PM (Israel)**

**Remembrance and Memory in the Museum**

Key speaker: Tamar Rosenfeld

**Summary:**

As sites of memory, history, and culture, museums offer opportunities to learn about the past through authentic objects and materials. This lecture will examine the ways in which museums curate experiences for visitors in order to perpetuate memory and remembrance, while connecting audiences to the past and helping them make personal meanings that are relevant to their own lives. Examples from different museums will frame the way museums use their exhibition space and design, as well as the objects they choose to display and their juxtapositions. In addition,

this lecture will compare museums' interpretative and educational approaches, such as guided engagement, active participation, and technological tools.

About Tamar Rosenfeld:

Tamar Rosenfeld – Cohen teaches museum education in the Hebrew University's School of Education and is focusing her doctoral work at Lesley University on teacher professional development in art museums. Tamar holds an art history and education bachelor's degree and a master's degree in museum education and has worked for museum education journals in Israel and the U.S.. She teaches art history at Leyada High School (the Hebrew University Secondary School), where she is head of the art department and head of online and digital pedagogy.

[For registration](#)

**Date: 26.4.2022 – 6.00 PM (Israel)**

Poetry and Memory

Key speaker: Dr. Rachel Korazim

**Summary:**

Israeli poetry about the Holocaust, the survivors and their children has been written since the very days of WWII and continues to be written to our own times.

This session will explore three different notions of commemorations as seen through poems of Nathan Alterman, Avner Trainin and Itamar Yazo Keszt.

We will discuss the development of the Shoah narrative in Israel of the early years and its lasting impact.

At the same time this session as a model for teaching about the Shoa and Israeli society through poetry.

About the speaker:

Rachel is a Jewish education consultant in curriculum development for Israel and Holocaust education. Rachel opens for her audiences a window to Israeli society through literature; through stories, poems and songs of the best of Israel's writers, she invites listeners to engage with Israel in an innovative way.

Since the beginning of the Covid 19 pandemic – Rachel created a global community of hundreds of learners who meet to study Israeli poetry online regularly –

Until 2008 she was the Academic Director of Distance learning programs at The Jewish Agency for Israel, Department of Education

Born in Israel, she had served in the I.D.F as an officer in the central training base for women and was later, a member of the I.D.F delegation to Niger (West Africa). She is a graduate of Haifa University with a PhD in Jewish education. Rachel has a vast experience in Jewish education both in Israel and the worldwide. As one of the founders and directors of a special program for soldiers from disadvantaged background, she was responsible for creating the educational framework and training teachers for the implementation of the program.

Rachel had been the head of the JAFI delegation to Canada. (1985 to 1988) It is when she became involved with Jewish education worldwide; creating and implementing in-service training programs for educators, writing educational materials, counseling and teaching. Rachel is familiar, through many visits, with the Jewish education communities of the US, Canada, Latin America and Europe. Since 1990 she has invested a lot of her time and energy in helping the emerging Jewish schools of Hungary.

Rachel teaches at Israel's well-known learning centers such as The Hebrew University, Pardes and the Shalom Hartman Institutes as well as numerous world Jewish communities

[For registration](#)