



KOL 2026 RETREAT FOR JEWISH MUSIC ACROSS THE DIASPORA
Urban Adamah, 1151 6th St., Berkeley
PUBLIC SCHEDULE

Register at kolretreat.org | Questions: Kolretreatbayarea@gmail.com

Notes:

[-You can purchase tickets for the entire retreat or individual events](#)

-If you're staying onsite Friday and Saturday nights, your site host will be there to support you.

-There is limited onsite parking and street parking available.

Schedule and Locations

Friday May 1

4:30 PM - 5:30 PM Registration

-At registration, you'll receive a name tag with a 1, 2, or 3 on it. That indicates which Chavurah group to join during meals (optional but recommended connection time!)

5:30 - 6:30 Opening Circle (Amphitheater)

-A valuable time for those attending Kol to sing together, learn about the weekend, connect, and prepare.

-Land acknowledgment offered by Ariel Luckey from Jews on Ohlone Land and Sogorea Te' Land Trust.

-Since Kol begins on International Workers Day, we will open with a rousing rendition of Solidarity Forever by Elan Loeb!

-Form chavurah groups to connect and meet at meals

5:30 Tot Shabbat with Melita (Yurt)

6:30 PM - 8:00 Kabbalat Shabbat led by Adam Weisberg, Nathaniel Markman, and visiting musician Yoni Battat (Community Hall)

8:00 PM Dinner Served (Community Hall)

-Chavurah Groups: Find the table with your name tag's number on it and go there to have optional but recommended connection time. Group 1 led by maryam turtle, Group 2 led by Natalie Bitton, Group 3 led by Elly Malka, Group 4 led by Dayne Samuels)

9:00 PM - 10:00 PM Song Circle facilitated by [Lauren Arrow](#) (Community Hall)

Saturday May 2

8:30-9:30 AM Breakfast

9:30 AM - 11:30 AM Shabbat Morning Services

Pick whichever speaks to you, or try them both!

- **Service 1: Sefardi Shacharit and Torah service led by Rabbi Tsipi Gabai (Community Hall)**

(Fill out the volunteer form if you want an Aliyah)

- **Service 2: Renewal Shacharit and Torah Service led by Kohenet Amanda Nube, Rabbi Elizheva Hurvich, Sara Elise Rund, Renée Benmeleh, and Eva Orbuch (Yurt)**

Join us Shabbat morning as we open the gates of prayer, create sacred space, chant from torah, and share Kohenet wisdom. All are welcome.

- **Services then join together** for a closing portion! (Community Hall)

10:30 AM - 11:30 AM Kids Shabbat (Lev)

- Join Melita for a joyful, interactive music experience with Shabbat songs designed for kids ages 2 to 9 (though all are welcome!). With her guitar, puppets, kid-sized instruments, and colorful dancing scarves, Melita creates a lively space for singing, dancing, and hands-on musical fun. Children will engage with a mix of Jewish and non-Jewish songs, fostering connection, creativity, and movement in a warm and inclusive setting. Come ready to sing, dance, and play along!

11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Lunch (Turf)

-Eat and talk with Ellie Shapiro, founder of the Berkeley Jewish Music Festival, which ran from 1985-2015!

-Chavurah Groups: Find the table with your name tag's number on it and go there to have optional but recommended connection time. Group 1 led by maryam turtle, Group 2 led by Natalie Bitton, Group 3 led by Elly Malka, Group 4 led by Dayne Samuels)

12:30 PM - 1:30 PM Workshop Block #1

1. Ariel Luckey: *Licensed to Ill: A Multimedia Exploration of Jews in Hip Hop*. (Yurt)
From Rick Rubin and the Beastie Boys to Mac Miller and Drake, Jews have a long, compelling history in hip hop. Is this a story of cultural appropriation, appreciation, or contribution? How does a Jew become a hip hop artist? What makes a hip hop song Jewish? In this interactive session, we'll listen to several songs, watch a video or two, engage in dynamic discussion, and enjoy a short, live performance.
2. Satchel Forrester: *Klezmer Jam*. (Community Hall)
For weddings, births, harvests, revolutions, deaths, hangovers, you name it - our Klezmer music has been the accompaniment to life, death, and everything in between. The Yiddish word klezmer means "vessel of song." It was originally used to refer to the instruments that made the music, then in

19th century the meaning changed to refer to the musicians who played the instruments, and now it is used to describe the genre as a whole. In this workshop we are inviting any klezmers to bring their klezmers so that we can make some Klezmer music! We will have a selection of Klezmer tunes to learn, play, and arrange together. All instruments, voices, and skill levels are welcome.

Bring your instruments if you have them, or just come and sing.

3. Solomon Alber: *Nigunim as Evolving Melodies. (Shamayim).*

This is a workshop class that dives into the structure, forms and emblematic qualities of nigunim. Participants of this workshop class will learn to perform nigunim by several distinct modern and crafters of Jewish song. Materials will involve teaching about communal singing and the methods of "kindling the fire" allowing nigunim to be transcendental melodies that speak directly to the neshama. There is no prerequisite or prior experience required to participate in this workshop class.

4. Jeanette Gross: *Sacred Chant Healing Circle: Praying for Peace, Wholeness, Healing. (Star).*

We open our circle sharing names of loved ones in need of our prayers for healing of body, mind and spirit. And we pray for those places in each of *us* that are broken and bruised just from living our lives. Sacred phrases from our liturgy joined with simple melodies become chants, a meditation to center us in creating a flow of healing. Joining our voices, our breathing, and our intention creates a sense of being held by the sacred phrases, cradled in the melodies and nourished by the community in a way that is healing to us, those we've named or haven't named and for ALL in need of healing. Together we create a strong healing energy throughout the circle sending it inward and far beyond as we pray for all beings to be safe, to be whole, to be healed. (The session will be mostly singing with short periods of silence between chants.)

1:45 PM - 3:15 PM Workshop Block #2

1. Yoni Battat: *Singing Our Stories*. (Turf)

Through the lens of his own story, and music from his album, *Fragments*, Yoni Avi Battat will offer participants the opportunity to reflect on their ancestry and fragmented identity, carving out new paths for embodied connection with past and future. Deep reflection and sharing will give way to a communal song-writing process, where participants will write and sing their own lyrics to one of Yoni's songs.

2. Rowan Katz: *Fundamentals of Voice & Group Harmony: Singing Together in the Jewish Tradition* (Shamayim)

In this workshop, we'll use melodies of the world of Jewish music as our playground for exploring the basics of vocal technique, listening, and group harmony. This workshop is for singers of all experiences with warm attention to beginners - we'll explore the fundamentals of vocal anatomy, breath, placement, and manipulation, how harmony is built, and what it feels like to sing *with* rather than just *next to* one another. Whether you're a seasoned singer or someone who hasn't sung since childhood, this is a space to explore and expand your voice in a supportive container!

3. Bruce Bierman: *Creating 'Halleluya' – Yiddish Dance Workshop* (Community Hall)

Step into devised dance theater making! In this playful workshop, we'll create a group choreography inspired by Daniel Kahn's Yiddish take on Leonard Cohen's "Halleluya." We'll play with the light and shadow that live side by side in all of us, exploring them through the shapes of Hebrew letters---a source of great inspiration to mystics, artists and choreographers alike. Each participant will pick a letter and bring it to life—its angles, curves, and personality—inspired by Bruce's sessions with his mentor the legendary Yiddish dance choreographer-- Felix Fibich, who, with his wife and choreographer Judith Berg, created the dance sequences in the 1937 film *The Dybbuk*. Along the way, we'll dip into Kahn's text, experiment with movement, and see what happens when words and bodies meet. By the end, the group's energy will fuse into a final ensemble piece that is equal parts discovery,

improvisation, and joy. No dance experience required—just curiosity and a willingness to let the letters lead.

4. Eli Conley and Talia Cooper: *Write Your Own Songful Chant*. (Lev)

The repetitive and catchy nature of chants can provide nourishing reminders to our hearts and minds. First we'll ground in the concept of b'tselem elohim – all of us made in the divine image – and how cultivating love for our bodies and ourselves is a sacred act. Then we'll do a short text study, and Eli and Talia will help you draw out words and a melody for your own short, chant-style song. We'll close with space to (optionally) share and sing. Open to all levels of creative and Jewish experience – even if you've never written a song before!

5. Elan Loeb: *Frame Drumming*. (Star)

Join Elan for a basic frame drum class for women and nonbinary people. We'll talk about Miriam and the history of drums in Jewish culture.

3:15 PM - 4:00 PM Free Time or Nap Time/Sound Bath

1. Hang out on the farm or offsite

2. Melita Silberstein and Eva Orbuch: *Shabbat Nap Time Sound Bath and Serenade*. (Yurt)

Rest into the delicious slowness of Shabbat and take a nap or lounge in the yurt, while being serenaded by luscious songs and soundscape. We'll be singing some songs with words in English, Hebrew, and Spanish, some without words, and some purely instrumental sounds.

4 PM - 5 PM Community Sing, led by Marv Zauderer. (Community Hall)

5:15 PM - 6:45 PM Workshop Block #3

1. Melanie Demore: *Jewish and African American Musical Connections*. (Amphitheatre)

We'll be singing African American spirituals that have common themes to so many of the Jewish tunes, whether klezmer, biblical songs, etc. Come throw your heads back and experience how music has been nourishment to get through the hard times.

2. Yoni Battat: *Ana Elekh: Entering the World of Maqam and Piyyut*. (Community Hall)

In this session, participants will encounter the centuries-old tradition of Arab musical modes, called *maqam*. We will approach this microtonal musical system through the lens of an Iraqi *piyyut*, joining our voices together and relishing the ways in which a non-Western musical aesthetic can offer new possibilities for expression.

3. Miriam Peretz: Jewish *Dance*. (Yurt)

Since biblical times Jews have been a dancing people!! In the Torah there are many stories that include dance for ritual and celebration. Circle dances have especially been an integral part of Jewish dance. Because of the long exile of the Jewish people, many of these ancient ritual dances have been lost. In exile the Jewish people adopted the dances of the lands in which they lived. The Jews of Yemen picked up the dances from Yemen, while the Jews of Morocco learned the dances from Morocco. Since the return of the exiles to the land of Israel, each Sephardi community brought with them beautiful dance traditions. In this workshop we will explore some of these Sephardi dance traditions including Yemenite and Moroccan dance. We will also learn an interpretive sacred Jewish dance inspired by liturgy, "Yishru Shalom." This dance is a prayer for peace and has been offered over the years at congregations throughout the Bay Area during high holy days. Learn a dance that you can offer with Miriam in the evening concert.

4. Rowan Katz: *Singing Back: The Power of Yiddish Resistance Music*. (Shamayim)

Yiddish resistance songs are never just songs — they are lifelines, coded messages, and overt acts of collective defiance. In this workshop, we'll go over several songs from the tradition of Yiddish resistance music, and explore what it means to carry them forward in our own voices today. We'll

dig into the historical and political contexts that gave birth to these works, sing them together with attention to text and meaning, and reflect on why this music still has something urgent to say. No experience reading or speaking Yiddish required — just curiosity and a willingness to let the music move through you and honor the living legacy of Yiddishist organizers and revolutionaries! This workshop will be taught with emphasis on voice, but you are welcome to bring an instrument to follow along - basic chord sheets will be provided.

7:00 PM - 8:00 PM Dinner (Community Hall)

-Chavurah Groups: Find the table with your name tag's number on it and go there to have optional but recommended connection time. Group 1 led by maryam turtle, Group 2 led by Natalie Bitton, Group 3 led by Elly Malka, Group 4 led by Dayne Samuels)

8-8:15 Havdalah (Community Hall)

Led by Kohenet Amanda Nube and Yoni Battat
Closing circle

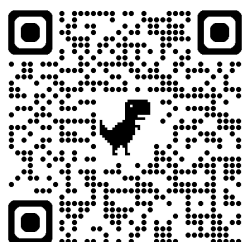
8:15 - 9:30 Participatory Concert (Showcasing our Teachers) (Community Hall)

1. Atid - Vocals, fiddle, clarinet
2. Yoni - Oud, vocals
3. Rowan Katz - Vocals, guitar
4. Eva - Percussion, vocals
5. Elan - Percussion
6. Melanie DeMore - vocals
7. Melita Silberstein - Vocals, Guitar
8. Eli Conley - Vocals, Guitar
9. Talia Cooper - Vocals
10. Solomon Alber - Sax/clarinet, vocals
11. Candace Wase - Bass

9:30 - 10:30 Dance Party, Dj'd by Ariel Luckey. (Community Hall)

Shavua Tov (Have a good week!) If you're staying over, please be out of your room by 9:45 am on Sunday.

POST RETREAT: *Please fill out the retreat evaluation!*



Please consider a donation to Kol! Paypal: koldonation@gmail.com

A note inspired by our co-sponsor Let My People Sing: *Kol gatherings are intergenerational, radically inclusive, and thrive on differences of all kinds, including religious, political, and cultural. This diversity is very important to the spirit of Kol. We acknowledge that Kol is happening during a very difficult, highly polarizing time. Coming together across differences can be increasingly challenging. That said, we intend to foster a safe space. We cannot promise that you will never feel any discomfort, but we expect that everyone will come with respect and curiosity. May we all allow communal music making to be a balm for our hearts.*

Kol and Urban Adamah are happy to support Sogoratae Land Trust through donating a portion of our proceeds. We encourage you to learn about and support them!

TEACHERS / LEADERS



Rabbi Tsipi Gabai is the first female rabbi on record who is of Moroccan descent and is currently only one of four female Mizrahi – Sephardic rabbis worldwide. She is deeply versed in both Mizrahi and Sephardic sacred ancient song cycles (Piyut), prayers and Torah trope and incorporates her knowledge and love for piyutim in the classroom, during prayer, and in workshops throughout the Bay Area. rabbigabai.com



Melanie DeMore: With a solid education in music composition, this accomplished songwriter, composer, choral conductor and former Sister of the Cloth, has a level of understanding as to the pure intention of Music that comes to only a very few in each generation. Life for Melanie DeMore is for the seeking and sharing of light, joy, and deep love for what moves you.



Lauren Arrow (she/her) is a queer Jewitch Songtender and Facilitator based in the San Francisco Bay Area. After overcoming a debilitating fear of singing and sharing her voice, she has spent the past 13 years dedicated to holding trauma-informed singing circles, helping people reclaim their voices and embrace their creativity and musicality through her organization, ProcessSING. <https://www.laurenarrow.com/>



Yoni Avi Battat amplifies and transforms the echoes of his Iraqi-Jewish ancestry to broaden perspectives, touch hearts, and build community. A dynamic singer, multi-instrumentalist, composer, story-teller, and prayer leader, Yoni performs and records across North America preserving, transmitting, and

innovating traditional and original melodies rooted in Arab musical forms. Yoni leads his own musical projects, such as *Fragments* and *Kedmah*, while maintaining an active schedule as a sought-after musical and interdisciplinary collaborator. From 2021-2022 Yoni toured nationally as an actor and violinist with the Tony Award-winning musical, "The Band's Visit. Based in Boston, Yoni works locally and nationally to uplift *Mizrahi* identity and bring Arab music into the soundscape of our American Jewish lives.

www.yonibattat.com @yonivibattat



Bruce Bierman is a master teacher, choreographer, and theater maker whose work spans the full breadth of Jewish dance and performance traditions. Singular in his deep study of both widely known and less familiar forms, Bruce brings audiences and students into the living worlds of traditional Yemenite, Hasidic, klezmer, and other historic Jewish dances, preserving older sources while allowing them to flourish in contemporary practice. As co-artistic director of the award-winning Yiddish Theatre Ensemble in Berkeley, Bruce has directed and choreographed acclaimed productions including *The Megilleh of Itzik Manger*, *God of Vengeance*, and *Between Worlds*, and has served as Yiddish dance and theater dramaturg for Paula Vogel's Tony Award-winning play *Indecent* at the Oregon Shakespeare Festival, Arena Stage, and San Francisco Playhouse. His work consistently bridges scholarly rigor with joy, theatricality, and community connection. Bruce also co-created Joy of Jewish Music & Dance, a monthly series showcasing the finest Jewish musicians and dance leaders across the full spectrum of genres—from klezmer and Hasidic music to contemporary, jazz-infused, and world-inspired expressions. Now based at Netivot Shalom in Berkeley, the

series brings vibrant, intergenerational Jewish music and dance to the local community, reflecting Bruce's commitment to both excellence and accessibility.



Jeanette Gross has been leading Sacred Hebrew Chant at Temple Isaiah in Lafayette, CA since 1998 and is a graduate of Rabbi Shefa Gold's Kol Zimra Chant Leadership Training. In 2008 our Sacred Chant Group evolved into Temple Isaiah's Healing Circles Project, pouring the prayers of our hearts into and through our circle and far beyond as a way of comforting and supporting all in need of healing. After leading a Healing Circle at Let My People Sing Summer Retreat 2025 and again in November at their Shabbaton at Kehilla, it is an honor to now offer a Kol Retreat Healing Circle.



Melita Silberstein is a singer/songwriter, a music specialist for young children, and a song/service leader in the Jewish community. She has been working in Bay Area schools and other venues for children for almost twenty years. She is also the founding member of the popular band for kids, Octopretzel. She has recorded and coproduced several albums for both adults and children, streamable on all music platforms under 'Melita,' 'Melita & Isaac,' and 'Octopretzel.' <https://www.melitamusic.com/>

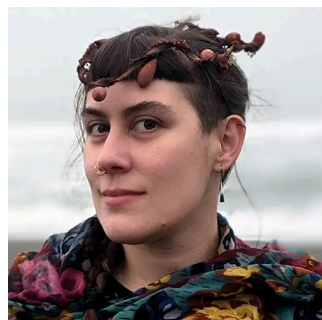


Marv Zauderer (he/they) leads the Joyful Voices Chorus community choir, the All In Song Circle, and co-leads Singing Resistance Marin on unceded Coast Miwok land in Marin County, California. He loves the magic of singing together, magic that can connect us deeply and uniquely with each other and exquisitely bridge so many divides in this more-than-human world. He is passionate about co-creating spaces for singing that are safe, welcoming, and easy for anyone to join in and feel alive, connected, well held, and uplifted. He is a graduate of the Community Choir Leadership

Training program in Victoria, BC, Canada and the Littlebird Songleader Flight School training program. More info: <https://singwithmarv.com>



Miriam Peretz weaves movement and ritual together to create safe, communal spaces for healing and empowered embodiment. She is a life-long dancer who is devoted to the study of sacred movement practices from around the world, focusing on dances from Central Asian and the Middle East as well as mystical practices of Sufi whirling and ritual. Miriam's work consistently weaves dance with embodied spirituality and devotion, drawing on her personal practice as a dervish and background as a child of Kabbalists. Miriam sees dance as a uniquely powerful means of expressing deep emotion and spiritual yearning, and therefore the perfect embodiment of prayer. She is the creator of Nava Dance, and Integral Dance, both modalities for holistic dance practice that weave traditional dance forms with somatic inquiry, embodied intention, and breath awareness. Miriam teaches regularly weekly classes in Berkeley and offers workshops and retreats worldwide. www.miriamdance.com



Sarah Elise Rund (they & she) is a rising Kohenet (Hebrew priestess) and Ba'alat Negina (holder of song). Raised in the Conservative movement in the Greater Boston area, Sarah Elise has found connection, comfort, and home in the Jewish Renewal communities here in the Bay Area. It is their goal to dive into Judaism with an explicitly Queer, earth-based, sacred feminine and non-binary mindset. Besides singing, Sarah Elise takes joy in dance, food, soil, fibers, and clay. She lives with their chosen family and cat on unceded Ohlone land, known as Oakland.



Kohenet Amanda Nube is rooted in the lineage of Kohenet and guided by the spirit of Jewish Renewal. She is a teacher, healer, and mystic with a background in Jewish Studies, yoga, and meditation. She is passionate about sharing her love of Judaism, Hebrew, music, and embodied spirituality. She currently serves as an educator for Chochmat HaLev's B'Mitzvah program as well as Olamim's Family School: A Place of Latin Jewish Belonging. www.HealingMama.com



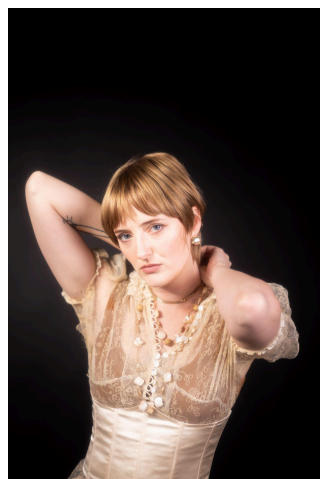
Rabbi Elizheva Hurvich is a Bay Area native who grew up with an eclectic Jewish practice ranging from the Rock n' Roll Rabbis, Joseph and Nathan Segal, to Congregation Kol Shofar, to her Jewish family roots in Alabama and Tennessee. During her rabbinical training, in response to being immersed in "speed davening" environments where words are mumbled as quickly as possible, she started noodling on the sounds of individual letters and vowels, noting how her body vibrated differently with each sound. She has been developing a very slowed down approach to her davening, which she says helps her to "feel the spaces between the letters." Rabbi Elizheva is an artist and long time Jewish educator who lives in Oakland with her spouse, teenager, and dog. elizheva@gmail.com



Renée Benmeleh is the founder of Sound Nourishment and a dynamic facilitator with over 25 years of experience in world music, vocal performance, and community ritual. She has joyfully facilitated ritual for over two decades in both Jewish Renewal and Lakota-Sioux ceremonial traditions. Renée's musical path spans jazz, vocal improvisation, East Indian Raga, Middle Eastern vocals and percussion, and African and Afro-Brazilian rhythms. A skilled multi-instrumentalist and drum circle facilitator, she leads transformative musical

experiences for children, adults, corporations, institutions, healing circles, families, and teams.

www.sound-nourishment.com



Rowan Katz is a vocalist, songwriter, composer, poet, folklorist, and movement artist born and raised in Los Angeles. Drawing from polyphonic traditions, folk and diasporic music, cabaret and musical theater, experimental vocal practice, and contemporary popular genres, Rowan is known widely for their work as a versatile powerhouse of a vocalist and performer. Their work moves fluidly between performance, composition, and communal practice, centering on themes of trauma healing, queerness, Jewish diasporism, recovery, abolition, rematriation, de-assimilation, grief, ritual, and mysticism. Rowan's musical language and ethos is shaped as much by years steeped in punk and DIY performance culture and popular music as it is by research, lineage study, and interdisciplinary collaboration. They approach the voice as a ritual tool that invokes spirits, incites revolution, and fosters collective attunement. Rowan lives and works in Berkeley, California, where they regularly perform original music and Jewish cabaret, collaborate with dancers and musicians, explore polyphony with their chamber group Ardea Ensemble, and offer vocal and musical education. Follow them on Instagram at @rowankatz.



Eli Conley is a singer-songwriter, song leader, and teaching artist. As a queer transgender man from the South, his songs tell stories that aren't always reflected in roots music. Eli offers music classes for LGBTQIA+ folks and allies, co-leads Tzedek Tirdof havurah in Sacramento, and is active as a song leader in Jewish direct actions for a ceasefire and other social justice movements. eliconley.com



Talia Cooper is a body liberation coach and singer/songwriter. She supports people who want to accept their bodies and eat intuitively so they can free up more energy to live an awesome life. She is the co-host of the Body Love Open Mic. She is also the co-founder of Bay Area Jews for Justice. Talia loves big earrings, dancing to pop music, baking cookies, and playing with her kid. Learn more: www.taliacoopercoaching.com



Solomon Alber is a multi-instrumentalist and educator based in the East Bay Area, where he grew up immersed in the area's diverse music scene. He actively performs saxophone, clarinet, and flute, and is a vibrant contributor to the Bay Area's jazz, funk, Balkan, and klezmer music communities. In 2025, Solomon co-led a Song Group for 8 months funded by a Hadar Rising Song Institute Grant. It was around this time when Solomon began to learn and study the practice of singing and crafting nigunim (wordless melodies) by way of shabbat tish tables, workshops and archives of recordings.



Satchel Forrester is a labor organizer and musician from San Francisco. He is a member of the **CHAVURAH GROUP LEADERS** and is involved in the opening Jewish

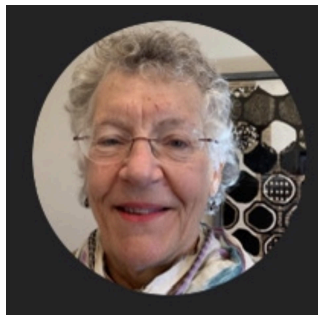
identities of and from the diaspora. A critical part of that work is the struggle for collective liberation through organization and by reclaiming our diasporic culture. For the past few years he has been involved in the klezmer community of the North Bay, playing clarinet with different groups and studying with the longtime members of the community. *Chavurah groups are optional spaces for people to gather and build connection during meals- Friday dinner, Saturday lunch, and by reclaiming our diasporic culture. For the past few years Saturday dinner. You will join a group Friday during the opening circle and can show up with your leader at the same table during the meals. If you aren't at opening circle, feel free to join any Chavurah group*



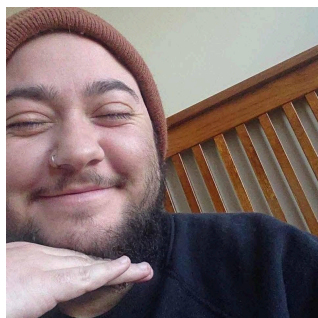
Group 1: maryam turtle (she/her/our) is a formerly incarcerated Elder trans woman who has been an activist in many movements since the 1960s. She is currently active in restorative justice, the teachings of yoga, prison abolition, and liberation song. She was Co-Organizer of the Summer 2022 End of Isolation Tour, which brought the immersive theater of *The Box*, a play about survival and resistance to solitary confinement, to cities around the U.S.



Group 2: Natalie Bitton is a Sephardic woman of Amazigh indigenous Jewish descendants of Morocco. She is a passionate spaceholder for full self-expression of being human; she has done this in several ways as an educator, college counselor, therapist, mediator, artist, poet, writer, ceremonialist, and most recently as a plant medicine sitter. Trained in nonviolent communication, mediation, and possibility management thoughtware, Natalie continues her advocacy work for dual-narrative approaches to Jewish-Arab relations. In her spare time, she sings horribly, dances clumsily, and increasingly laughs at the gameworld we inhabit. As she enters her elderhood, her dream is to continue to participate in the creation of a new gameworld called Archiarchy, a thoughtmap beyond Patriarchy and Matriarchy that emphasizes individual empowerment, collaboration, community engagement, and interconnectedness with Gaia. She offers deep listening, coaching, and mentorship to those who want to embrace and experience the totality of their humanness. She holds spaces for womyn's initiations and ceremonies in *First Moon*, *Mother Graduation*, *Birthing You Initiation*, and *Mother Hugs*.



Group 3: Elly Malka is an emerging Jewish Spiritual Teacher with an interest in relationships and dating. Her first book, "Spiritual Dating with Kabbalah and other mystical traditions" was published by Archway this year. She is also a Jewish artist and has shown in New York City, New Jersey, Richmond, and Berkeley, California. Elly also loves to sing and dabbles in playing guitar. She enjoys exploring the intersection between spirituality and creativity in all of its forms.



Dayne Samuels (they) is a white, Disabled, trans Jew, a ritual artist, teacher, student, medic alarm dispatcher, and community organizer. Dayne grew up on the Channel Islands coast of stolen Chumash land in so-called Ventura, CA, and they're currently making home on stolen Piscataway and Susquehannock land in beautifully weird Baltimore. They believe in the radical power of spiritual play and innovative prayer and seek to build a world that honors and is nourished by the Great Oneness of all. They take joy in being barefoot, sitting on the floor, and singing in community. Dayne is Ritual Chair of Hinenu: The Baltimore Justice Shtiebl, a Shomeret Shalom rabbinical student, and dedicated steward of their beloved feline companions, JPEG and PDF.

KOL ORGANIZERS



Eva Orbuch is a passionate justice seeker, coach, consultant, and musician. She is a Kohenet (Hebrew Priestess) in training and frequently drums and sings for Jewish prayer spaces. She loves to support and coach people in finding their authentic activism, designing rituals for moments of life transition, and she acts as a “Drum Doula,” supporting people to build their relationship with drumming, power, and leadership.



Atid Kimelman loves playing and singing all kinds of music and helping others do the same. A multi-instrumentalist, he's played in klezmer bands, led community singing circles, and facilitated nigun collectives on the east and west coasts. He's especially passionate about connecting music to spiritual exploration and social justice, and about learning from the full tapestry of the world's musical traditions.



Elaina Marshalek serves as Urban Adamah’s Ritual and Community Director. She was born, raised, schooled, and remains rooted in the Bay Area. She was previously Director of Programs and Talmud Teacher at SVARA: A Traditionally Radical Yeshiva that brings the spiritual study of Talmud to the masses as a tool for radical changemaking. When not on the farm, she’s Senior Educator at Base Bay Area, building vibrant, rooted, and resonant Jewish community for young adults out of her and her partner’s home in Oakland.



Turtle Woman Maryam (she/her/our) is a formerly incarcerated Elder trans woman who has been an activist in many movements since the 1960s. She is currently active in restorative justice, the teachings of yoga, prison abolition, and liberation song. She was Co-Organizer of the Summer 2022 End of Isolation Tour, which brought the immersive theater of *The Box*, a play about survival and resistance to solitary confinement, to cities around the U.S.



Laurelle Schiff is a queer Jewish Philadelphia native, working as Urban Adamah's Interim Community and Ritual Programs Manager. The rest of her time is spent facilitating dream circles, teaching dance classes to help people connect to their own movements, creating Jewish summer camping experiences for teens, and leading nature based play experiences for adults. Laurelle can usually be found dancing amongst the redwoods of Sonoma County, while attempting to identify all the medicinal plants. She has worked for every type of Jewish org under the sun- synagogues, schools, Federations, JCCs, summer camps, social service centers, and has always found her groove doing community building and events to bring folks together through creativity, depth, and joy.