

Home About Student Life Alumni + Parents Calendar DONATE



Updated April 21, 2020

To the Jewish Gator Nation:

The health and well-being of our community is our top priority. Please know that while our physical distance from one another will increase temporarily, UF Hillel is committed to creating warm and welcoming opportunities for our community to remain connected in creative and positive ways in the coming days.

In accordance with <u>University of Florida guidance</u>, UF Hillel is operating on a modified schedule. We have postponed all student gatherings and the Hillel building is currently closed starting Thursday, March 12, 2020. Our staff is now working remotely to serve the need of students in keeping with CDC guidelines.

Upcoming Events -- All upcoming events including our Friday night Shabbat experience will not take place until further notice. Cohort- based experiences, including the Jewish Learning Fellowship and Leaders of Change, moved to virtual sessions. With students now spread out across Florida and beyond, Hillel has created opportunities to engage in Jewish life virtually. Information on these opportunities is available on our website, Facebook, and Instagram.

Summer Israel Travel -- Birthright Israel has canceled trips departing in May and June. We are working to reschedule our trips for August. Onward Israel has also canceled the summer program. We will continue to share relevant information directly with individuals signed up for these programs. The most up to date information is also available on our partners' websites: Onward Israel and our Birthright Israel provider, Israel Outdoors.

At this time of uncertainty, UF Hillel staff are here for you. Don't hesitate to reach out to us if we can help you navigate this stressful situation—and you'll be hearing from us, too! Please consult our website and follow us on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Instagram</u> for the most up to date information.

Thank you for your patience and flexibility. Please feel free to be in touch with questions.

Sincerely, Rabbi Jonah Zinn, Executive Director

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UF Hillel

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