



CALL FOR APPLICATIONS:

The New Generations Facilitation Fellowship

A Project of the New Israel Fund to promote community conversations on Israel and social justice in the Bay Area

The New Israel Fund is proud to invite Bay Area Jews in their 20s and 30s to apply for the second year of its New Generations Facilitation Fellowship. The Fellowship offers an opportunity to train in how to foster meaningful, direct conversations on Israel and social justice for the Bay Area's Jewish community. Israel remains one of the most polarizing issues in the American Jewish community, and many young Jews are seeking environments where they can speak, listen, and learn with their peers without the getting swept up by the political storm. NIF's New Generations aims to address the need for meaningful dialogue and deliberation by cultivating safe spaces throughout the Bay Area's young Jewish community where honest and inclusive public conversation on Israel is not only welcome, but celebrated.

Designed by conflict resolution trainer Eyal Rabinovitch, the program will provide a core understanding of mediation, facilitation skills and conflict transformation theory and practice. Participants will learn a valuable skill set applicable to a variety of professional, interpersonal, and communal settings.

In its first year, the Facilitation Fellowship:

- Trained a diverse cohort of young Bay Area Jews in the art of facilitating conversations across a broad spectrum of topics and opinions.
- Facilitated Love, Hate, and the Jewish State 2.0, which brought together over a hundred local Jews in their 20s and 30s to talk, listen, and discuss important issues related to Israel.
- Crafted 11 innovative gatherings, each ranging in size from a few people to several dozen, for collective exploration of participants' personal experiences and issues of greatest curiosity and concern on Israel.

NIF's 2014 Facilitation Fellowship will expand on this pioneering work, retooling the innovative methods developed by the 2013 cohort, while also crafting new models for effective engagement and communication across divides. The New Israel Fund is honored to work alongside key community efforts in the region, like the Year of Civil Discourse, that have contributed deeply to this work. NIF believes that continuing to open up conversation among a new generation of US Jewry will not only sustain and strengthen our Jewish community at home— but could help support a vision of democracy and equality in Israel.

Applications are due on January 26 by 5pm and applicants will be notified of results no later than February 7. **Please send applications, along with any questions and all inquiries to: orlee@nif.org**

What Will You Get?

- Extensive training and practice between March and August 2014 in the theory and practice of facilitating conversations with divergent points of views, with a specific focus on the American Jewish conversation on Israel. (See detailed schedule below)
- Opportunity to facilitate the third installment of New Generations' "Love, Hate & the Jewish State" series.
- A small event budget and substantive support as you work with NIF staff to design, convene, and facilitate your own community dialogue event for young Bay Area Jews between May and July of 2013.
- The opportunity to facilitate your own community conversation as a Facilitation Fellow and become a resource for dialogue and deliberation for NIF and other Jewish communal organizations.

What is Asked of You?

Fellows will be required to commit a significant amount of time and thought to the process between March and August 2014. You must be able to attend all trainings and meetings (detailed below). This includes both weekend workshops and evening sessions, and, of course, Love, Hate & the Jewish State 3.0. All events and meetings will be held either in San Francisco or in the East Bay, near public transportation. Up to one absence will be permitted for special circumstances and emergencies.

You will also be expected to collaborate closely with the New Generations Director, and possibly one or two other fellows in crafting your own event in the spring/summer of 2014. These collaborations will require cultivating relationships with partners, designing and refining a dialogue process, as well as directing publicity and other legwork associated with event planning.

Who Should Apply?

Fellows should have the desire and disposition to help Bay Area Jews come together to talk directly and openly about Israel without judgment, censorship, or pressure to conform to any given view. Our facilitators will work to support all those interested in engaging in meaningful conversation about Israel, to speak openly and listen resiliently, even when it gets hard. While we will work with you to develop and hone specific facilitation skills, the ideal facilitators are those with a natural tendency to inspire trust and safety within the tumult of often heated dialogue.

This does not mean abandoning your own convictions! Rather, it means sustaining your own perspective while also helping others articulate their views, questions, and uncertainties. Ideal applicants will be able to sustain empathy and centeredness amidst challenging conversations, even in the presence of views significantly different than their own. You do not need to have any particular background or formal training to apply.

What is the Cost?

\$0. Participation in the program is free of charge thanks to the generous support of our funders. Moreover, a small budget will be available to use in crafting your own community conversations in spring 2013. NIF is committed to transforming the Bay Area into a region where all young Jews can speak openly about Israel regardless of their views, backgrounds, or previous levels of knowledge and expertise. Although space is limited and selection will be competitive, we do not want financial need to come in the way of that mission.

Schedule

Dates and Deadlines Date	Activity	Time	Location
Tuesday Feb 25	Welcome dinner	TBD	San Francisco, TBD
Friday, March 7 – Sunday, March 9	Initial training intensive for all fellows	Friday evening –Sunday afternoon	Bay Area, TBD
Wednesday, March 19	Evening training session	6:30-9 pm	NIF office, downtown SF
Week of March 24- April 2	Small group sessions (each fellow must attend 1 session)	2 hr sessions, TBD	Bay Area, TBD
Wednesday, April 9	Evening training session	6:30-9 pm	NIF office, downtown SF
Week of April 28- May 2	Small group sessions (each fellow must attend 1 session)	TBD	Bay Area, TBD
Wednesday May 14	Evening training session (Submissions due for project proposals)	6:30-9 pm	NIF office, downtown SF
Wednesday May 22	Love Hate practice session *	6:30-9 pm	Bay Area, TBD
Between May 28 and May 30 **	Love Hate 3.0	7-10 pm	San Francisco, TBD
May 1 – July 30	Fellows plan and execute dialogue and deliberation events across the Bay Area	N/A	Multiple Bay Area locations, TBD
Early July	Fellowship event presentations	6:30-9 pm	NIF office, downtown SF

* *If there is an expressed interest or need, we may have two practice sessions for Love Hate 3.0.*

** *Love Hate 3.0 may have to be moved to the Fall, but the calendar will remain as planned.*

How to Apply

Please include in your application:

1. Your resume/CV.
2. Contact information for one professional reference who will attest to your capacity and desire to facilitate communication in the context of conflict or difference.
3. Your answers to the following 5 questions (please limit each answer to 250 words or less):
 - a. Why do you want to participate in the Facilitation Fellowship?
 - b. How much experience do you have as a facilitator, either formal or informal? What do you believe are your strengths and challenges as a facilitator? How do you see the Facilitation Fellowship supporting your growth?
 - c. How much experience do you have in event planning, whether large community events or smaller groups? Please note that this is not a requirement for the fellowship, but is a useful tool for the fellowship.
 - d. What have you found to be your greatest challenges in talking about Israel? How do you tend to react when speaking with those who disagree with you?
 - e. What is the conversation surrounding Israel that you most wish to facilitate? Who would you like to bring into the room? What would you like them to share with one another?

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