VANDERBILT HILLEL

OUR COMMUNITIES, YOUR VANDERBILT FAMILY

F A L L 2 0 2 3

Vanderbilt Hillel serves the religious, social, and educational needs of students. Take a look inside and see how you can become a part of our wonderful community!

vuhillel.org
hillel@vanderbilt.edu

VANDERBILT Hillel

@vandyhillel
vanderbilt.hillel

What can I do at Hillel?

Learning with Hillel

Jewish Learning Fellowships

Hillel's Jewish Learning Fellowship (JLF) is a 10-week seminar for college students looking to explore Judaism on their own terms.
Topics Include:

- Life's big questions
- Ancient wisdom for modern well-being

Kol Yisrael

Kol Yisrael is a 6-week cohort learning program for students to explore big ideas and big questions with Israel as a real-world case study.

Belmont Learning

Belmont students explore the weekly Torah portion and its relevance in their everyday experiences.

Senior Torah on Tap

Tour Nashville's bustling brewery scene as we connect with the senior class to discuss their college journey and its impact on Jewish identity and life after college.

Social Programs

Fall Holiday Festival

The Hillel community brings the high holiday spirit to campus on Alumni Lawn with carnival games, booths, and activities that link to Jewish holiday traditions, symbols, and themes.

Hillel Date Party

Students dance the night away at Hillel's date party every semester.

Social Excursions

Students gather together for rock climbing, farmers market trips, trampoline jumping, and axe throwing.

Israel Programs

Taglit Birthright Israel

Students are led through Israel by Jewish professionals and will experience Jewish history and Israeli culture with unforgettable tours, hikes, and unique activities.

'Dores for Israel

'Dores for Israel (DFI) is Vanderbilt Hillel's active pro-Israel group on campus. Members come together to discuss Israel in intellectual settings, enjoy social functions such as Falafel at Midnight, and provide Israeli cultural experiences at the annual Israel Fest in February.

Onward Israel

Onward Israel is a framework for immersive and resume building experiences in Israel for students. Students on Vanderbilt Hillel's Onward cohort have the opportunity to live together in Tel Aviv, build their professional skills through internships, and explore all that Israel has to offer!

Leadership Programs

First Year Programming and Leadership

Vanderbilt Hillel has extensive programming for our First Year Students of Hillel (FYSH). This includes our pre-orientation program, FYSH Fest, a mentorship program, a leadership and programming board, and social programming.

Senior Leadership Initiative

The Senior Leadership Initiative meets regularly, engaging in social programs, community service, networking, and educational activities in order to enhance the sense of a "senior class community." This initiative establishes connections between seniors and the Nashville Jewish community and ensures an enduring bond between Hillel and our graduating students.

Student Executive Board

The student executive board is a group of student leaders who meet weekly and work together to ensure all aspects of Vanderbilt Hillel student life run smoothly such as social programs, Israel initiatives, Tikkun Olam events, Jewish learning experiences and so much more.

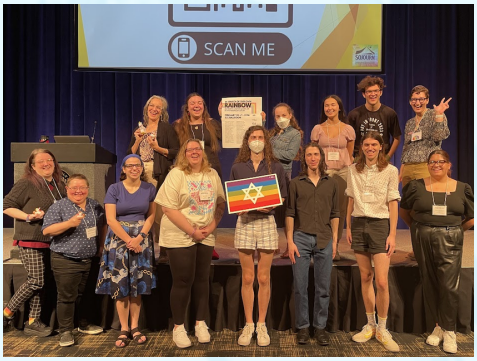
Micro-communities

Hillel Out'Dores

Hillel Out'Dores is a community passionate about exploring the natural beauty of Middle Tennessee with a Jewish lense. Join your friends on monthly hikes, raft trips, and overnights.

Atzmi

Atzmi is a home away from home for Vanderbilt Hillel's LGBTQ+ Jews and Allies.



Gift of Life

The Vanderbilt Hillel chapter of Gift of Life works with the Nashville Predators to help get everyone involved in curing blood cancer, whether as a bone marrow donor or a volunteer.

Jewish Holidays

Shabbat

Every week, we run student led Shabbat services and a free, kosher Shabbat dinner.

Rosh Hashanah Seder

This unique Vanderbilt Hillel tradition combines the structure of a Passover Seder with the themes of Rosh Hashanah to give students a meaningful hands-on ritual experience around the dinner table.

Sukkot

Students gather in the sukkah for meals, meetings and programs. Students fulfill the mitzvah of the holiday just by stopping in to study.

Passover

Beyond the Seder table, Vanderbilt Hillel offers social and traditional opportunities such as matzah pizza making, text-based learning, and our famous brunch buffet.

A MESSAGE FROM VANDERBILT HILLEL'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, ARI DUBIN

Vanderbilt Hillel is a home away from home for our students on campus. We are more than a building. We are a community, one that plays a pivotal and vital role for our students. Throughout these unsettled times, our Hillel has remained the center of Jewish life and we will continue to be in the future. We will be present and vibrant for our students as we continue to do what we do best: build and strengthen the Vanderbilt Jewish community and provide a family network to support our students' religious, social, and cultural needs.

Sincerely,
Ari Dubin, Executive Director

Thursday & Friday, August 17 & 18	All Day	FYSH Fest Pre-Orientation Program	Welcoming New Students & Families to Vandy Hillel
Friday, August 18	5:30 PM	Move-In Shabbat & Dinner	Begin Your First Year with Shabbat at Hillel
Sunday, August 20	8:45 AM	Welcome Families Bagel Brunch	Bagels on Us! Students & Families Welcome
Wednesday, August 23	6:00 PM	First Day of Class Pizza Party	Grab a Slice to Celebrate the First Day of Classes
Friday, August 25	5:00 PM	Welcome Home Shabbat & Dinner	So Glad to Have You Back for Friday Nights at Hillel
Friday-Sunday September 15-17	ALL DAY	Rosh Hashanah Services & Dinner	Reform & Conservative Services, Kosher Holiday Meals
Sunday-Monday September 24-25	ALL DAY	Yom Kippur Services & Break the Fast	Reform & Conservative Services; Bagel Break the Fast
Friday, October 6	2:00 PM	Sukkot Fall Festival	Carnival, Games, & Food on Alumni Lawn
Friday, October 13	5:30 PM	Family Weekend Shabbat & Dinner	Experience a Hillel Shabbat with Your Family
Saturday, October 14	TBA	Family Weekend Hillel Tailgate	Grill Out with Hillel Before the Game
Sunday, October 15	11:00 AM	Family Weekend Bagel Brunch	Bagels & Kugel to Wrap Up the Weekend
Friday, November 3	5:30 PM	Reunion Weekend Shabbat & Dinner	Come Back Home to Hillel with Services & Dinner
Saturday, November 4	TBA	Reunion Weekend Tailgate	Grill Out with Hillel Before the Game
Sunday, November 12	5:30 PM	Annual Vanderbilt Hillel Fundraiser	Honoring Sylvia Shepard & Goldie Shepard
Friday, December 8	5:30 PM	Goodbye Shabbat & Dinner	Last Shabbat of the Semester-See You in the Spring!
Coming this Fall:	Weekly	Jewish Learning Fellowship Sessions	Jewish Learning Fellowship Cohort
	Weekly	Kol Yisrael Learning Sessions	Kol Yisrael Cohort
	Bimonthly	Senior Leadership Initiative Events	All Seniors
	Weekly	FYSH Board Meetings	First Year Students
	Monthly	Challah For Hunger Bakes	Bakers needed for a great cause!
	TBA	Falafel at Midnight	Enjoy a late-night snack and learn about Israel
	November	Friendsgiving	Enjoy a staff-made Thanksgiving Dinner at Hillel
	TBA	Hillel Date Party	All students welcome for a formal dance

Dates, times, and locations are subject to change. An up-to-date calendar of Hillel events is availible on our website, vuhillel.org

Rosh Hashanah	September 15, 2023
Yom Kippur	September 24, 2023
Sukkot	September 29, 2023
Shemini Atzeret & Simchat Torah	October 6-8 2023
Hanukkah	December 7, 2023
Purim	March 23, 2024
Passover	April 22, 2024

Holidays begin at sundown as reflected on the the listed dates above.

Shabbat services are held at 5:30pm each Friday night, followed by a free catered Shabbat dinner at 6:30pm. Dietary restrictions can be accommodated with advance notice, please contact veronica.grady@vanderbilt.edu.

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Jewish Federation of Greater Nashville