

## JCRC Youth Fellowship for Jewish Identity and Leadership Planning Guide

### Table of Contents

Program Overview:.....	1
Program Goals and Objectives: .....	1
Program Audience: .....	2
Criteria for Choosing Participants:.....	2
Program Expectations and Scholarship Requirements:.....	2
Session Schedule: .....	4
Program Staffing:.....	6
Program Evaluation: .....	6

### Program Overview:

The JCRC Youth Fellowship for Jewish Identity and Leadership is a single school year program designed to empower Jewish high school juniors and seniors to explore and embrace their history, develop leadership skills, and cultivate a deep sense of pride, meaning and joy in their Jewish identity. Through a comprehensive series of interactive learning sessions and engaging field trips, participants will gain a nuanced understanding of Jewish history, culture, and values, while also learning how to articulate their own narratives and advocate for their community. Students will receive a \$1,000 stipend upon successful completion of the fellowship.

### Program Goals and Objectives:

1. Instill a deep sense of pride, joy, meaning and confidence in fellows regarding their Jewish identity.
2. Strengthen fellows' connections to the organizations and resources within the Twin Cities Jewish community.
3. Equip fellows with the knowledge and skills to effectively address and combat antisemitism they may encounter on college campuses.
4. Empower fellows to articulate and share their personal stories and the collective narrative of the Jewish people with clarity and confidence.
5. Deepen fellows understanding of Zionism as a movement of Jewish national liberation, ‘the meeting point between need and longing’.
6. Challenge fellows to grapple with the complexity at the heart of the Israeli-Palestinian issue, respecting the role history plays in how we understand the present and think about the future

7. Guide fellows in creating a meaningful capstone project that encapsulates and reflects their learning and experiences throughout the fellowship.

### Program Audience:

This program will be open to rising high school juniors and seniors. Students who are selected as fellows will be part of an annual cohort. Students who are not part of this cohort may attend specific sessions that are open to other students.

### Criteria for Choosing Participants:

Students will be required to fill out an application form to be considered for the fellowship. Students will be asked questions pertaining to their Jewish identity, experience with antisemitism, leadership styles, post-graduation plans, and motivation for joining the fellowship.

### Program Expectations and Scholarship Requirements:

To receive the scholarship upon completion of the fellowship, fellows will be required to:

1. Attend all sessions and excursions unless they have a pre-approved absence.
2. Complete all assignments.
3. Complete a capstone project at the end of the program.
4. Complete a pre and post participation survey.

Throughout the fellowship program, students will be expected to complete assignments between each session. These assignments are designed to reinforce learning, encourage critical thinking, and deepen engagement with the material covered. While assignments will be graded for participation, students will also receive constructive feedback to support their learning and development. In instances where assignments are of low quality or do not meet the specified criteria, they will be returned to the fellow with feedback for correction. Additionally, when students submit assignments, we will collect feedback from them to ensure that their voices and perspectives are incorporated into the ongoing refinement of the program. This dual feedback process aims to foster a supportive and collaborative learning environment while promoting continuous improvement in both content delivery and student performance.

As participants in a prestigious and competitive fellowship, students are expected to maintain a high level of decorum, professionalism, and respectful behavior throughout the program. This includes treating fellow participants, speakers, organizers, and community members with courtesy and respect at all times.

- **Respect:** Show respect for others' opinions, beliefs, and cultural backgrounds. Listen actively and engage in discussions thoughtfully.
- **Professionalism:** Arrive on time to all sessions, dressed appropriately, and prepared to participate fully. Maintain a positive and proactive attitude.
- **Decorum:** Use appropriate language and behavior in all fellowship activities, including online communications and field trips.

Any issues related to student behavior will be promptly addressed by fellowship organizers.

Depending on the severity and nature of the issue, the following steps may be taken:

1. **Verbal Warning:** A private discussion with the student to address the behavior and outline expectations for improvement.
2. **Parent Contact:** If the behavior persists or is of serious concern, parents will be contacted to discuss the situation and potential consequences.
3. **Dismissal:** In cases of severe or repeated misconduct, students may be dismissed from the fellowship. This decision will be made at the discretion of the fellowship organizers and will be communicated to both the student and their parents.

Maintaining a respectful and professional environment is crucial for the success of the fellowship and the personal growth of all participants. We trust that each student will uphold these standards and contribute positively to the fellowship community.

JCRC reserves the right to reduce the stipend amount based on participation, attendance and completion of the requirements.

**Session Schedule:**

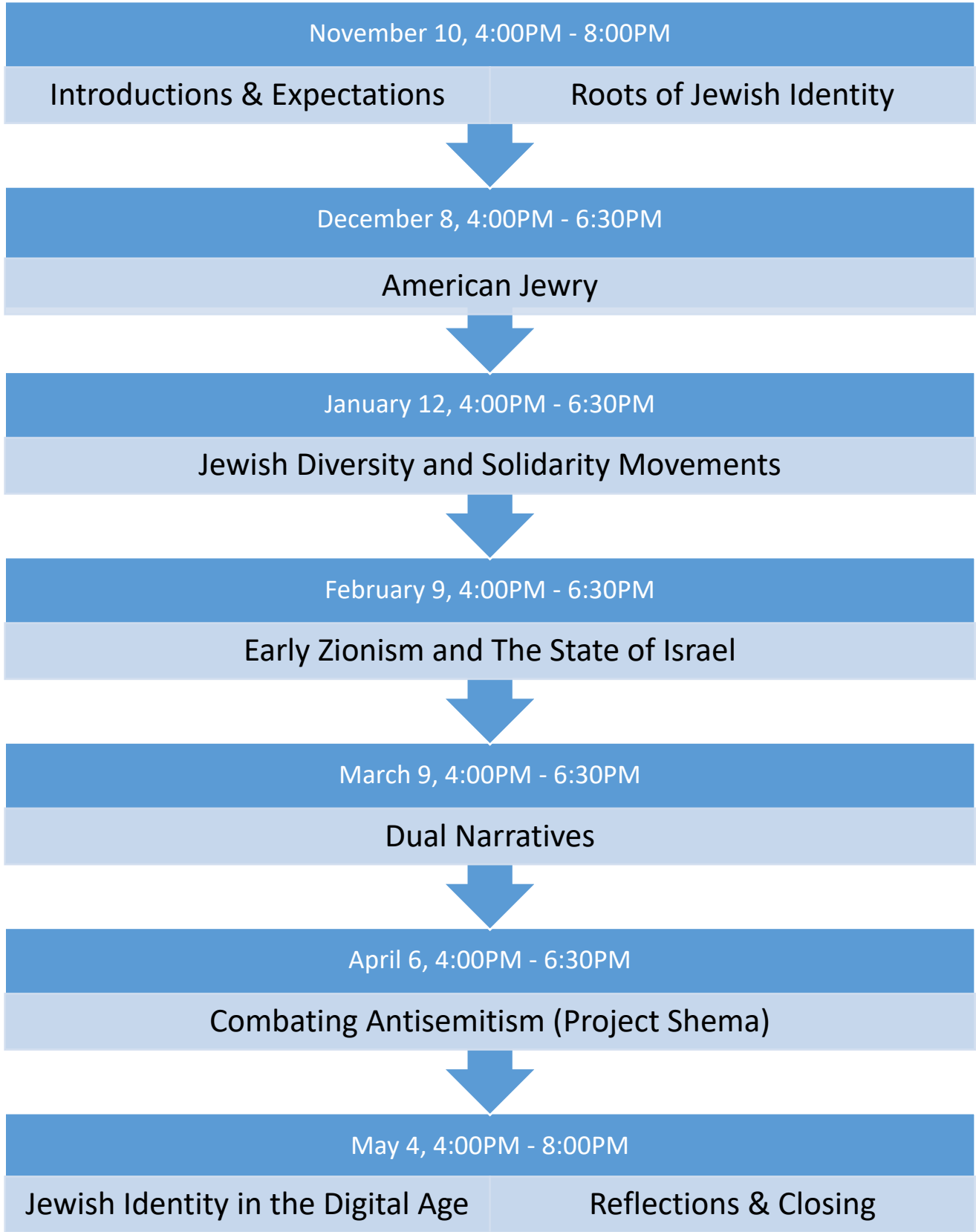
Apart from field trips, all sessions held at JCRC

Barry Family Campus

4330 Cedar Lake Rd S

St. Louis Park, MN 55416

(Schedule diagram on next page)



Program Staffing:

1. Sally Abrams
2. Holly Brod Farber
3. Naomi Breazeale

Program Evaluation:

Students participating in the fellowship program will be asked to complete a survey both before and after the program. These surveys serve as valuable tools for evaluating the effectiveness of the program and gathering feedback from participants. The pre-program survey aims to gather baseline data on participants' expectations, knowledge, and attitudes regarding Jewish identity, leadership, and related topics. After completing the program, participants will be asked to fill out a post-program survey, which will assess their experiences, learning outcomes, and overall satisfaction with the program. Additionally, the post-program survey will include questions about changes in participants' perceptions of Jewish identity and leadership skills because of their participation. By comparing responses from the pre- and post-program surveys, organizers can measure the impact of the program, identify areas of improvement, and make informed decisions for future iterations of the fellowship. To ensure responses, students will be required to fill out both surveys to receive the scholarship.

The capstone project serves as the culminating experience of the fellowship program, providing participants with an opportunity to demonstrate their understanding of key concepts and apply their learning to a real-world context. Students will be required to develop a project that reflects their engagement with the program themes and addresses a significant issue or topic related to Jewish identity, leadership, or community. The capstone project may take various forms, including research papers, creative presentations, community service initiatives, or advocacy campaigns. Throughout the program, participants will receive guidance and support to develop their capstone projects, including access to resources, mentorship, and feedback from program facilitators. By completing the capstone project, students will not only showcase their knowledge and skills but also contribute meaningfully to the ongoing dialogue surrounding Jewish identity and leadership.

For any questions, please contact JCRC at

[info@minndakjrc.org](mailto:info@minndakjrc.org)

612-338-7816