

# TARTAK LEARNING CENTER

## RESOURCES RENEWED

## מקורות מתחדשים

Volume 5, Issue 2

January 2007

### The Tartak Learning Center Wants You (and we REALLY want your lesson plans!)

- We're proud to display and share lessons written or compiled by our students and staff.
- If you have designed lesson plans that worked well; or if you have created a discussion guide to accompany a textbook, website, DVD or video, please consider sharing your work with other members of our community.
- You can leave hard copies in the Tartak Learning Center office, or email your submissions to [tartak@huc.edu](mailto:tartak@huc.edu) *Thanks!*

#### *Inside this issue:*

Seeking New Material	1
מה חדש?	2
Recent Acquisitions	3
Coming Events	4
Director's Cut	4

### Tartak Learning Center Hours



**Monday - Thursday**

**9:00 - 5:00**

**Friday: 9:00 - 3:00**



You are always welcome to come browse the Tartak Learning Center in person in *HaMercaz* or online at [www.huc.edu/tartak](http://www.huc.edu/tartak).

## מה חדש?

### *What's Nu?*

Shalom and welcome back! Spring semester should prove to be a riveting time filled with new resources, new "lunch and learns," and many other new opportunities for Jewish learning. However, many of you may not realize what is actually "old" at Tartak. Find below an array of ways to utilize the treasure that is the Tartak Learning Center.

**Books and Content Materials:** This is what most eager teachers come seeking in order to develop amazing lessons. The Tartak Learning Center carries a variety of resource materials on a large number of Jewish topics, materials which include books, videos, DVDs, computer programs, lesson plans, Unit plans, Hebrew Curriculum and much more. You won't find Curriculum Guides written by RHSOE students anywhere else!

**Lesson/Unit Planning Support:** Both the Tartak director, Lynn, and the Tartak intern, Ann, enjoy the challenge of developing new ideas and lesson plans. You might need help finding an activity, developing a lesson plan, or finding a resource to begin your quest.

**Web Research:** Do you get "lost" on the web? We really enjoy hunting for those special internet treasures that you're seeking.

**Resource Drives:** This is one of the things for which the Tartak Learning Center is most well known amongst HUC students and alumni. We hold resource drives for a variety of Jewish holidays where resources from all of the above-mentioned areas are copied and prepared for students to take and use in developing curriculum for their students.

Don't hesitate to come by the Tartak Learning Center to check out *What's Nu* and *What's Old!*

-Ann Sanguinet  
*Tartak Intern*

## Recent Acquisitions

Christians & Jews in Dialogue: Learning in the Presence of the Other by Mary C. Boys and Sara S. Lee (Jewish Lights Publishing, Woodstock VT, 2006)

Professors Sara Lee and Mary Boys offer a guide for members of any faith tradition who want to move beyond the rhetoric of interfaith dialogue and into the demanding yet richly rewarding work of developing new understandings of the religious other — and of one's own tradition.

The Way Into Judaism and the Environment by Jeremy Benstein, PhD (Jewish Lights Publishing, Woodstock VT, 2006)

Just in time for Tu B'Shevat! An exploration of ways Judaism addresses environmental responsibility.

The Kids' Fun Book of Jewish Time by Emily Sper (Jewish Lights Publishing, Woodstock VT, 2006) This is a wonderful new resource with flaps to lift, wheels to turn, and other "paper engineering" features that will charm readers of all ages.

God's To-Do List: 103 Ways to Be an Angel and Do God's Work on Earth by Dr. Ron Wolfson (Jewish Lights Publishing, Woodstock VT, 2006)

The title says it all!

Bridging the Gap: The Power of Mentoring Teachers for Creating Teaching Excellence. A Practical Guidebook for Congregational Education by Nancy Prager Levin with Sara S. Lee (HUC-JIR/RHSOE, Los Angeles, 2006)

This book is based upon the experience of four congregations who used exemplary, experienced, and talented veteran congregational teachers to help enhance the skills and knowledge of newer teachers in their schools.

## Hebrew Union College- Jewish Institute of Religion



### Tartak Learning Center

Director: Lynn D. Flanzbaum, MAJE '05  
Student Intern: Ann Sanguinet

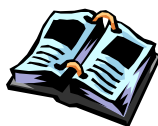
Tartak Learning Center  
HUC-JIR  
3077 University Ave  
Los Angeles, CA 90007

Phone: (213) 765-2192

Fax: (213) 747-6128

Email: tartak@huc.edu

Website: www.huc.edu/tartak



## Save the Dates



Feb. 6, 2007 12:10 —1:15 pm

The Tartak Learning Center and the  
Institute for Judaism & Sexual Orientation

Joint Lunch and Learn Program:

Educational Resources for LGBT issues

We'll provide lunch and drinks!

## Free Books!

The Tartak Learning Center recently rediscovered boxes of textbooks and teaching materials that were once on our shelves. Most have been replaced by newer editions or updated materials.

Watch for your opportunity to claim some classic Judaica books for FREE!

## Director's Cut

INSTANT REPLAY... Did you miss the amazing Lunch and Learn program with Professor Bea Lawrence on teaching Bible to adults? Relax. We took notes for you!

- We have all experienced challenges when teaching adults, such as disparate Jewish backgrounds and varying learning styles. Bea suggests creating a class Brit which focuses on developing a supportive, mutually respectful learning community.
- It's very helpful to know the makeup of the group before launching into text study. For example, a lawyer might bring insight and energy into Levitical lists of rules.
- Bea prepares herself for students to resist new ideas that challenge their old ways of thinking. She tries to have answers through commentaries in her head (or copied to share) in anticipation of challenging issues.
- Finally, if the students and the teacher are challenged by text study, that is FANTASTIC! According to Bea, "Just as these texts (the Bible) were given to the people in the wilderness during times of struggle and strife; so we too enter uncharted and challenging waters each time we engage in Torah study." — Lynn