

New Gen Activism Fellowship 2017/18

Introduction

The New Gen Activism Fellowship is an exciting opportunity for young British Jews who are passionate about social justice, human rights, equality and pluralism and who care deeply about the State of Israel, to channel their deep commitment to Israel's future and their passion for social justice into concrete activism, connecting the UK to grassroots groups in Israel. It offers exceptional young leaders a unique immersion into issues in Israeli society, opportunities to forge connections with Israeli activists leading positive change, and the skills and platforms to lead initiatives to support and advance this work.

The fellowship requires participants to act as leaders and ambassadors for New Israel Fund throughout the year, through committing to running events, speaking out, networking and organizing in order to build support for the issues they are passionate about.

New Gen (short for "New Generation") is New Israel Fund's international community of young adults and social activists in their twenties and thirties who are committed to this vision, and New Gen members in the UK are offered a variety of ways to learn, connect and act through our menu of educational, social and philanthropic activities.

Our Vision for the Fellowship

We see the New Gen Activism Fellowship as an opportunity to nurture a new generation of leadership which can steer the British Jewish community to actively engage with New Israel Fund's work to advance social justice, human rights, religious freedom and a shared and tolerant society in Israel.

The core aims of the fellowship are to:

1. Develop the next generation of leaders and activists on Israel-based social justice issues in the UK community
2. Widely contribute to New Gen activities and growth throughout the year, building on its reputation for providing high quality content for young people in this area
3. To galvanise long term support for NIF and its values throughout the wider community, and contribute to generating a transformation in attitudes, knowledge and awareness of NIF's work and values within the UK Jewish community.

If this vision excites you too, then read on!

Fellowship Components

The year-long fellowship entails:

1. A seven-day immersive trip in Israel engaging with core issues in Israeli society and key actors in civil society working for positive social change. The trip will be conducted in partnership with other New Israel Fund fellowship groups from around the world.
2. Six Sunday day-seminars throughout the course of the year in the UK providing training, development and peer support to support fellows' development as agents of change.
3. Organising four events with the other fellows for New Gen such as film screenings, showcasing speakers and activists from Israel, 'food for thought' discussion dinners, fundraising events, and more.
4. Becoming an Ambassador of social change, through "speaking out" at least three times on issues relating to social justice, human rights, religious freedom and shared society in Israel. This can be achieved by taking on public speaking engagements, leading educational activities or writing in the press.
5. Networking and developing relationships as leaders to grow engagement and build support in and around the UK Jewish community, and beyond.
6. Working together on a culminating project that encapsulates the knowledge and experiences gained into a powerful and impactful resource or initiative for activism.

Fellows will receive:

- A unique opportunity to play a role in advancing positive social change in Israel
- CV-enhancing training, development and mentorship opportunities with UK based activists and leaders from the world of community organising and social change
- Networking opportunities to forge connections and partnerships with Israeli, British and international peers and leaders, and to join an international community of like-minded activists
- Firsthand experience and in depth knowledge of New Israel Fund issue areas and projects throughout Israel
- Platforms for leadership and speaking opportunities within the UK Jewish Community, NIF's networks and further afield.

Seminar & Trip Dates and Details

Orientation Seminar

18 June 2017

This full day orientation seminar in London will:

- Introduce fellows to the programme, NIF staff and each other.
- Clarify expectations and requirements
- Offer a broad introduction to the work of NIF
- Provide a framework for fellows to begin to prepare for fellowship components

Israel Tour

15 - 22 July 2017

The intensive seven-day tour will include visits and tours hosted by NIF grantees, meetings with experts and activists, and practical workshops and trainings. In this holistic, immersive experience, fellows will:

- Learn about key issues affecting contemporary Israeli society
- Engage with the goals, values and strategy of NIF and its partners
- Study a variety of strategies of social change
- Identify and explore issues which they care about and are motivated to act on
- Forge personal connections with activists on the ground and lay the groundwork for future partnerships and joint projects
- Gain skills for activism

The seminar will start in the evening of the 15 July, allowing time for participants to land and arrive at the hotel in Jerusalem after Shabbat.

The seminar will finish in the afternoon of the 22 July, allowing time for participants to transfer to the airport and board our recommended flight home.

Participants are of course welcome to extend their stay around these dates, but NIF will not cover any further accommodation.

Training & Development Seminars

10 September 2017, 12 November 2017, 7 January 2018, 4 March 2018

Four complementary seminars will punctuate the fellowship in the UK, offering training, personal development and a forum for developing and implementing the various components of the fellowship. The seminars will include:

- Updates from the field in Israel
- Module on *community organizing*
- Module on *practical skills for activism*
- Peer updating and support for fellows' New Gen leadership and ambassador commitments

Closing Seminar

6 May 2018

The closing seminar will conclude the fellowship, and will enable fellows to reflect, measure their impact, celebrate successes and consider their plans for ongoing engagement with NIF and Israel activism.

Date for the Diary

Our annual Human Rights Awards Dinner will take place on evening of the 5th of November.

Deliverables

Running Events

Fellows will be expected to work together to produce four New Gen events throughout the course of the year. The aim of these events is to share knowledge and develop discussion about the issues in the community, and build on New Gen's reputation for high quality, engaging content.

Possible event formats include (but not limited to):

1. 'Food for thought' discussion evenings
2. High profile speaker events
3. Film Screenings & other cultural programming
4. Challenger fundraising initiatives

Speaking Out

Fellows will be expected to "speak out" on issues relating to social justice, human rights, religious freedom and shared society in Israel, through public speaking, leading educational activities or writing in the press. Each fellow will be expected to "speak out" in some capacity on three separate occasions during the fellowship.

NIF will support fellows by drawing on our networks and resources to provide easily accessible opportunities for fellows to speak out.

Culminating Project

In the second half of the fellowship, fellows are expected to work together towards a culminating project of their own design which raises awareness for a project or organization that is working to advance social change in any of our core issue areas.

Projects by previous fellows include creating an educational resource, running an awareness campaign and putting on a significant educational event for the wider NIF community of supporters.

A micro budget (£100 per participant) will be made available for the team project.

Networking & Developing Relationships

As young people who are passionate about NIF's work, we expect fellows to represent NIF in any other relevant forums they may be in, and network and develop relationships with relevant and interested individuals

in order to grow our engagement levels and build support in and around the UK Jewish community for the fellowship and for NIF generally.

Mentorship

In addition to the four training & development seminars, fellows will be offered mentoring throughout the duration of the programme. This is to ensure participants get the most out of the process, and are empowered to take the best next steps towards becoming the next generation of ambassadors and leaders of New Israel Fund.

How much does it cost?

If successfully selected for the fellowship we require a contribution towards the cost of the programme of **£240**, payable either by bank transfer or a monthly direct debit of £20 a month upon acceptance of a confirmed place after a successful interview.

We don't want to put off potential suitable candidates for the programme with this cost, so if this expense is an issue, please be in contact with us directly using the details below.

Participants must also cover the costs of their own flights and travel insurance to Israel for the seminar in July. We will help make recommendations for flights and coordinate the group's travel plans once places have been allocated.

Who is it for?

The fellowship is open to outstanding young activists, aged 21-35 who can demonstrate the following:

1. Active engagement with Israel, including having travelled to Israel previously and possessing a solid understanding of modern Israeli politics and a basic understanding of historical context
2. Skills and experience of leadership and activism, and a keen interest in applying these within the UK Jewish community
3. Professional and/or voluntary experience relevant to the planning and execution of effective activities in areas such as fundraising, communications and community organising
4. A strong affinity with NIF's values and mission, and a desire and ability to act as ambassadors for New Israel Fund

There are 3 places available on this years fellowship cohort.

No previous participation in New Israel Fund events or within the New Gen community is required.

We are keen to develop a heterogenic group of fellows with diverse backgrounds and interests, so make sure to tell us your unique story and highlight any distinctive qualities, skills or knowledge you could bring to the group.

Fellows must commit to attending all specific fellowship programming and deliverables, as detailed above. The New Gen community events and New Israel Fund's UK-based activities will take place in London. As a result, applicants from across the UK are welcome, but we cannot guarantee your place on the programme if you cannot commit to attending the seminars and events in London.

Whilst the fellowship is a year-long commitment, we also hope that fellows will be inspired to remain engaged with New Israel Funds work and involved in the New Gen leadership as mentors, ambassadors and supporters of New Israel Fund for years to come.

How do I apply?

The application process includes filling in an application form and then an individual interview with New Israel Fund staff in London.

Fill in the application form here: <https://goo.gl/forms/K0rf3FmO6mXP8gsK2>

Closing date for applications: **29 March 2017 at Midday.**

Interviews will be held during the week of the **3 – 10 April 2017.**

If you have any questions about the New Gen Activism Fellowship, or want to discuss your application or individual circumstances then please contact Graham, the New Gen coordinator at graham@uknif.org or call 0207 724 2266.