Every year, right about the time when students are back on campus, we at UM Hillel find ourselves preparing for a new High Holiday season. I find it particularly meaningful that while incoming and returning students are starting a new chapter in their lives, UM Hillel plays a central role in their college and Jewish experience. Paraphrasing from another Jewish holiday, I ask myself, how is this year different from any other year?

We are back in our new home - The Braman Miller Center for Jewish Student Life. A truly collaborative effort, this building symbolizes the strength and commitment of the community coming together inspired by a shared vision.

We have a new Rabbi - Rabbi Lyle Rothman! Under his guidance and supervision, Jewish Student life is evolving to bring more hands-on, relevant Jewish experiences to the U.

We have reached a new milestone - 75 Years of Jewish Life at UM. We look forward to celebrating with alumni, families, friends, students and the entire community that care about Jewish life on campus. Please join us on Wednesday, November 2, 2016 – miamihillel.org/hillel75

Every day our spectacular team at UM Hillel works to create a pluralistic, inclusive Jewish environment. We are committed to engaging new and old students, learning their stories, and offering them opportunities to grow, to learn, and to participate in fun and meaningful ways.

Thank you to all of our donors for your commitment and support of UM Hillel. Please be in touch, I want to hear and learn from you!

Shanah Tova uMetukah (A good and sweet year),

Igor Khokhlov, Executive Director
MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Last academic year was a period of transition and growth for UM Hillel. Igor Khokhlov was hired as our Executive Director to bring a new vision and energy in order to lead our outstanding team of Jewish professionals.

With our state of the art building now being complete, our next goal is to develop a strong and sustainable Annual Campaign. This year, we are introducing a "Family Circle" which provides a mechanism for families and UM Hillel to work as a team in order to create a home away from home for our students. Our newly formed multi-year Hillel Heritage Society has been developed to support creative initiatives and give our donors unprecedented access to special events.

There is something for everyone here at UM Hillel!

On behalf of the Board of Directors, I assure you that we are using every dollar carefully to guarantee our students have the very best facility, superb talent and creative and engaging initiatives which will benefit everyone at the University of Miami.

Thank you for all your continued trust and support in inspiring the next generation of Jewish leaders. I invite you to celebrate UM Hillel's 75th Anniversary on Wednesday, November 2nd. I am humbled and honored to welcome you into our new home!

Larry Spiegelman,
University of Miami Hillel Board Chair
Braman Miller Center for Jewish Student Life

SERVING THE GREATER MIAMI COMMUNITY

When we envisioned the Braman Miller Center for Jewish Student Life, we wanted the style and feeling in our building to merit the city in which we live. Miami has become such a vibrant international city, with a lot of options to choose from. We all wanted UM Hillel to emulate that, and in order to do so, it needed a space to bring our dreams to reality.

UM Hillel has so much to offer our students and the community as well - trips to other cities and countries, eye opening experiences, learning opportunities, and professional development. As an added bonus, we have delicious as well as healthy food in our cafe.

I believe Hillel’s comprehensive approach to Jewish life will teach students new thoughts, ideas and a love of Judaism; and the new building will truly become a central address for Jewish life on campus.

~Debi Wechsler, Co-Chair of the Capital Campaign
“Here at the University of Miami, Hillel gives Jewish students a place to call home—a place where they can connect with their culture, deepen their spirituality, energize their commitment to community service and develop relationships that will last a lifetime.”

~ President Julio Frenk, University of Miami
“When I arrived on campus I didn’t know anyone, but after one trip to Hillel no one would have guessed that. With Hillel’s student leaders, we are working to give everyone an experience of inclusion through promoting all aspects of Jewish life throughout our UM community.”

~ Joey Newfeld `17, UM Hillel Student President
In the first chapter of Hilchot B’rachot (Laws of Blessings), the Rambam wrote, “A person should recite a blessing loud enough for all to hear.” It is with that in mind, that I share with you the blessings of our growing community.

What a tremendous honor it is to be the newly appointed Campus Rabbi and Jewish Chaplain at the University of Miami Hillel. In less than a year our beautiful new building was dedicated and we recently welcomed new staff members. Thanks to this incredible space and the vision of our professional team, we will undoubtedly inspire, engage, and connect the next generation of UM students to make an enduring commitment to Jewish life, learning, and Israel. But the truth is our new building is only as good as the students who fill its space with their presence, ideas, and commitment to strengthening Jewish life on campus and in the world.

As we are joining together as a community to usher in the year 5777 on the Jewish calendar, may it be one that brings happiness and peace, comfort and courage, resilience and strength. Over the coming months and years we will construct elaborate Sukkot and dance with the Torah. We will kindle lights and bake Challah for Hunger. We will learn together, grow together and cry together. Thanks to your constant support, University of Miami Hillel will continue to be a place to truly celebrate Jewish life.

~ Rabbi Lyle S. Rothman, Campus Rabbi and Jewish Chaplain
**SHABBAT SERVICES AND DINNER**

We are fortunate to host student led Friday night services each week, followed by a free, three course dinner. Students love coming to Hillel on Friday nights, catching up with their friends, celebrating Shabbat and schmoozing.

**HOLA HILLEL**

UM Hillel's Jewish Latin group on campus has been making strides in their own network, integrating into the greater UM Hillel community on campus. The first ever Spanish email blast was sent to Miami’s local Latin Jewish community.

**U MENTOR**

UM Hillel's mentorship program, in partnership with Toppel Career Center, is a unique experience which pairs students with a Jewish professional in their field of study. Twenty students were accepted into the program and were provided with leadership training, professional development, and one-on-one mentoring.

**CHALLAH FOR HUNGER**

Students raised thousands of dollars to fight hunger locally and abroad. Students met weekly to braid, bake and sell challah on and off campus.
“UM Hillel exceeded our expectations as an engaging entity where young adults can identify, both through commonalities and differences.

Our son thrived at the University of Miami Hillel where he was able to engage with other students he would have otherwise probably not met. Hillel gave him the opportunity to create something new – a community for Latin Jews attending the University – and offered him countless opportunities to both belong and lead.

~Valerie Lustgarten, Parent ‘15
BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL

University of Miami Hillel facilitated and took the lead in creating pro-Israel initiatives on campus. One of the initiatives was in partnership with “Artists for Israel,” a collaborative project of American Jewish and non-Jewish graffiti artists bringing art to different parts of the world, and advocating for peace and coexistence. UM Hillel also led a campus-wide “Peace in the Middle East” event, in collaboration with “May Peace Be Upon U” - a UM Muslim student organization.

“Going on Birthright with University of Miami Hillel was an incredible experience. It was a unique trip to Israel because we spent the entire 10 days with Israeli peers, learning from each other and growing together. The friendships we made with the Israelis have only strengthened my desire to go back because now I feel like I have family to welcome me home. I know that people I met, will be lifelong friends and ones who I can continue to share memories with throughout my college years.” – Sara Espiedra `17
15 students went to the AIPAC Policy Conference

96 students went to Israel

1,440 students
STUDENTS ON CAMPUS

4 DIFFERENT PASSOVER SEDERS HOSTED

185 NEW INTERACTIONS

WITH UNINVOLVED JEWISH STUDENTS BY ENGAGEMENT INTERNS

ENTS CAME TO SHABBAT DINNERS
ENSURE A JEWISH FUTURE
INVEST IN US!

University of Miami Hillel depends upon unrestricted dollars to support our annual campaign. While our priority is to ensure dollars raised can be allocated to areas of need, there are number of specific priorities which donors may underwrite.

Gifts above $500 to the University of Miami Hillel are considered gifts to the University of Miami and receive the appropriate recognition.

The following opportunities within Jewish Student Life have been identified as giving priorities for the 2016-2017 academic year and beyond.

Please note these are only suggested giving levels. Contact Igor Khokhlov, Executive Director at igor@miamihillel.org or 305-284-8918 to share your ideas.

COFFEE DATES - $50
We love getting to know our community members and the best way to do that is over a cup of coffee. Help us support this semester’s worth of meaningful coffee conversations.

HOLIDAYS AT UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI - $100
UM Hillel provides services and meals for Jewish holidays, including Yom Kippur, Hanukkah, Rosh Hashanah, Yom Ha’atzmaut, and Passover. Funds are needed to cover the cost of holiday meals and events.
$1,000

New students, that is to invite sponsor a weekly meetings.

WEEKLY SHABBAT DINNERS
$1,800 PER WEEK

In an effort to build community and encourage students to gather and celebrate Shabbat, UM Hillel offers free, kosher dinners each week.

BIRTHRIGHT ISRAEL - $5,000

Students have multiple orientation sessions before the trip, and a number of follow-through initiatives upon their return to campus. Funds for this initiative will ensure meaningful and thorough follow-through with all participants.

UNIVERSITY FUND
$20,000

Fees for all the services and Yom Kippur and needed to cover the programs.

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT
$15,000

In order to be the best Hillel in the country, UM Hillel needs to attract and retain the best team. Funds are needed for staff coaching, mentoring, conferences, trainings, and classes to ensure the continued growth and development of Hillel.

UM HILLEL HERITAGE SOCIETY

Our goal is to create a sustainable giving community. We must provide for the continuity and sustainability of our efforts. We created the UM Hillel Heritage Society for multi-year giving towards our Annual Campaign.
THANK YOU TO THOSE WHO MADE BRA MAN POSSIBLE

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

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WE APOLOGIZE FOR ANY ERRORS OR OMISSIONS. TO MAKE A CORRECTION, CALL 305.284.9414
ANNUAL CAMPAIGN 2015-16

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The Robert Russell Memorial Foundation
Nedra and Mark Oren
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Sheila and Joseph Edelson
Vivian Norman and Fernando Extrakt
Lori and Roy Fabry
Sebastian Faerman
Susan and Steven Feinstein
Gail and Barry Fingerhut
TOTAL GIFTS = $543,389.14

27% = Grants
26% = Community
20% = Board
12% = Parents, Students, Alumni, UM Faculty
10% = Foundations
6% = Program revenue
PROFESSIONAL STAFF:

Igor Khokhlov, Executive Director
Rabbi Lyle S. Rothman, Campus Rabbi and Jewish Chaplain
Karem Sandgarten, Director of Finance and Operations
Morgan Waisner, Assistant Director of Development
Janu Mendel, Director of Engagement
Tara Levy, IACT Israel Engagement Coordinator
Lindsay Flammey, Engagement Associate

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