B'YACHAD KADIMA

*Moving forward together*

**UPJ Biennial 2026**

FRIDAY 19th NOVEMBER - SUNDAY NOVEMBER 22nd

# PROGRAM SCHEDULE - DAY 1

**THURSDAY 19th OF NOVEMBER**

| TIME | SESSION |
|---|---|
| 17:00 - 18:30 | **Presidents Round Table** |
| 18:30 - 19:30 | **Opening welcome, drinks and nibbles** |

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# PROGRAM SCHEDULE - DAY 2

## FRIDAY 20th OF NOVEMBER

| TIME | SESSION |
|---|---|
| 07:30 - 08:30 | **Refreshments and Registration**<br>Followed by Shacharit |
| 08:30 - 08:50 | **Biennial Opening Welcome**<br>Co-Chairs Larry Lockshin and Sue Zablud |
| 08:50 - 10:10 | **Brave Conversations Project - Monash University**<br>Dr Dan Heller and Dr. Farid Zaid - Senior Lecturers and Co Directors, based on Brave Conversations - How to listen with empathy; includes guided exercise |
| 10:10 - 10:25 | **Break** |
| 10:25 - 11:45 | **Talking and Teaching About Israel - Interactive**<br>Ilan Bloch - Director of Jewish Life and Learning King David School, small group discussions about our own ideological baggage when talking or teaching about Israel |
| 11:45 - 12:30 | **Netzer** |
| 12:30 - 1:20 | **Lunch**<br>Phyllis Dorey - Chair WUPJ |
| 13.25 – 14.25 | **Cultivating Jewish Joy in the Arts - Panel**<br>panel moderated by Tracie Olcha - CEO of Australian Jewish Funders with Alice Zaslavsky – TV/radio presenter and award winning cookbook author, Jamie Bialkower - director and founder of Jump street films, Nina Sanadze - sculptor and founder of the Goldstone Gallery in Melbourne, Elise Hearst - award winning novelist and playwright. |
| 14.30 – 16.00 | **What We Hold/What We Hand on - Interactive**<br>**Australian Jewish Funders with CEO Tracie Olcha and Natalie Knoll** - In the spirit of B'yachad Kadimah, this session invites participants to reflect on how each of our communities move forward together - across organisations, leadership stages and over time. |
| 16.00 – 18.00 | **Break to get ready for Shabbat** |
| 18.00 – 19.15 | **Shabbat Evening Service**<br>Drash: Gabe Freund - Stand-up CEO |
| 19.15 | **Shabbat Dinner & Talk: The Struggle for a Jewish and Democratic Israel in Times of War and Peace**<br>Guest speaker - Orly Erez Likhovski: Israel Religious Action Centre |

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# PROGRAM SCHEDULE - DAY 3

**SATURDAY 21st of NOVEMBER**

| TIME | SESSION |
|---|---|
| 08:30 - 09:30 | **Coffee, Tea, Juice and Refreshments** |
| 08:45 - 09:45 | **Torah Study**<br>**Choir Practice** |
| 10:00 - 12:30 | **Shabbat Morning Service** |
| 12.30 - 13.30 | **Shabbat Lunch - Buffet** |
| 13.30 – 14.30 | **Panel discussion on the future of Progressive Judaism in Australia and Israel**<br>Guest speaker - Orly Erez Likhovski, and a panel of Rabbis and representatives of the Progressive community |
| 14.30 - 15.15 | **WORKSHOPS 1 AND 2**<br>**Workshop 1: Max Gross:** "Beyond the Bulletin: Social Media for Modern Synagogues."<br>**Workshop 2: Rabbi George Mordechai:** Listening Across Difference |
| 15.15 – 16.00 | **WORKSHOP 3**<br>**Building Community, Building Revenue:** TBI Torah project |
| 16.00 - 18.30 | **Free Time** |
| 18.30 - 22.00 | *OPTIONAL ADD ON*<br>**Gala evening with special guest artists: Deborah Conway AM and Willy Zygier**<br>including a special Havdalah with Netzer |

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# PROGRAM SCHEDULE - DAY 4

**SUNDAY 22nd of November**

| TIME | SESSION |
|---|---|
| 08:00 - 08:45 | **Coffee, Tea, Juice and Refreshments**<br>Followed by Shacharit |
| 08:45 - 09:45 | **Understanding Online Hate**<br>Dr Andre Oboler - CEO of the Online Hate Prevention Institute |
| 09:45 - 10:00 | **Break** |
| 10:00- 10:45 | **Live recording of podcast the Pluralist**<br>with Guest Speaker Orly Erez Likovski and Editor of The Jewish Independant Deborah Stone |
| 10:45 - 11:15 | **UPJ and Israel briefing**<br>Danny Hochberg Co-President UPJ |
| 11:15 - 12:00 | **Update on outcomes from the Royal Commission** |
| 12:00 - 12:30 | **Wrap-up, Summary and Farewell** |

Attendees depart by lunchtime