



Strengthening Jewish Life through Inclusive Torah Study

A 3-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN TO INCREASE THE IMPACT OF PARDES: 2023-2025



Pardes is where people find their path. Alumni go on to do great things and become movers and shakers in the Jewish world. Studying in a non-denominational Beit Midrash in Israel was an absolute dream come true.

—Jake Gillis (2020-21)

HOLDING ON TO OUR PAST TO MOVE FORWARD.

In my six years at the Pardes Institute for Jewish Studies, I have spent time teaching and learning from one of my favorite rabbinic texts, the description in the an early Rabbinic midrash of Moshe remembering to take the bones of Joseph with him as the children of Israel escape from Egypt.

The midrash offers a vivid description of two aronot, arks, that are carried side by side for 40 years as the children of Israel make their way to the land of Israel. In one ark are the luchot habrit, the 10 Commandments; in the other are Joseph's bones.

Usually, I teach this text to explore what it means to be a living embodiment of Torah. As we embark on a 3-year strategic plan, I think about this text in a new way: **How can we hold on to our past in a way that helps us to move forward?**

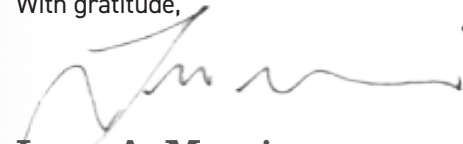
Just as Joseph's bones symbolized the foundation upon which the Israelites could build their future, the rich and storied history of Pardes must be our launching pad, the basis for our own transformation as we march towards our bright future.

Pardes has inspired five decades of Jewish leadership marked by openness, passion, knowledge and inclusivity. This is our hallmark, and it will continue to strengthen us and our community in future generations. Pardes alumni educate, inspire, and transform their own students peers and communities on a daily basis. Our impact is far-reaching and long-lasting — **over 1,200 Pardes alumni are past, current, and future Jewish professionals.**

As we begin to implement our strategic plan, we do so within the context of ever-evolving Jewish identities. While our year-long immersive programs will remain our signature offering, the Pardes commitment to learning will increasingly need to adapt and expand to accommodate the new ways in which Jews think about religion, denominationalism, and personal growth.

Our ability to reach more learners in more places is only possible because of the strength of those who walk alongside us. Moses didn't carry the ark with Joseph's bones himself. Over 40 years, numerous people stepped up to fulfill the task. What a blessing it is for Pardes to be able to draw from the power of our community. **We invite you to join us as we work to strengthen Jewish life around the world.**

With gratitude,



Leon A. Morris

PRESIDENT, PARDES INSTITUTE OF JEWISH STUDIES



BUILD ON OUR PROGRAMMATIC SUCCESS

BUILD OUR PRESENCE IN NORTH AMERICA

BUILD THE TEAM THAT LEADS US

BUILD CAPACITY FOR ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

BUILD OUR NEW HOME

THE CHALLENGES THAT FEED OUR FUTURE Vision for Growth

Pardes has identified five strategic priorities that support our mission and vision as a plan for growth.

BUILD ON OUR PROGRAMMATIC SUCCESS

Affirm our focus on our core competency - education. Increase access to our innovative opportunities for learning by building measured capacity and sustainable programmatic growth.

OUTCOME Expand on our best-in-class programs to serve and inspire more learners of all ages, backgrounds and beliefs who directly and indirectly shape their personal and professional communities in meaningful and substantial ways.

BUILD OUR PRESENCE IN NORTH AMERICA

Increase our sphere of influence by maximizing our role as the central address for Torah study, particularly in North America.

OUTCOME Develop affinities for Pardes by increasing access to our leading voices in Jewish learning. Serve as the vital Jewish learning resource that others look to when adding Torah study to their programs. Engage our alumni base in new ways.

BUILD THE TEAM THAT LEADS US

Invest in human capital and a stable structure to implement our growth plan.

OUTCOME Cultivate professional and lay leaders who work seamlessly to provide appropriate oversight, operations, and revenue generation. Exceptional people and professional development positions Pardes to better deliver on its mission.

BUILD CAPACITY FOR ORGANIZATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Optimize our strengths and secure our financial future through actions and strategic communications.

OUTCOME Achieve operational effectiveness: and financial stability by supporting the two-way relationship between program success and organizational strength and sustainability. Resulting in the next level of maturity for our organization and enhancing our ability to have a positive impact on students.

BUILD OUR NEW HOME

Create and activate first-class facilities and infrastructure.

OUTCOME A new infrastructure — in our new home in Jerusalem as well as throughout the world — that aligns resources, expertise, and technology to support our learners and partners, and optimize our strengths to pursue manageable growth.

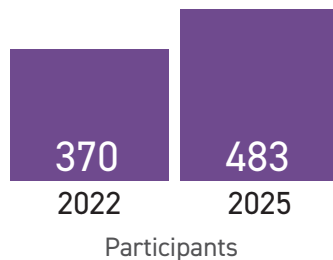


Expanding our Reach

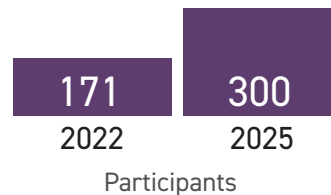
HELP US REACH 127% GROWTH

GROWTH IN ISRAEL

Immersive Programs
30% GROWTH



Short-Term Programs
75% GROWTH



GROWTH IN NORTH AMERICA

In Person + Digital Programs
275% GROWTH



"The fellowship restored my faith in the longstanding Jewish tradition of debate for a higher purpose. Pardes and similar organizations are crucial for the spiritual, intellectual, and traditional health of the future of the Jewish community and beyond."
-Daniel Levine

THE IMPLEMENTATION OF OUR STRATEGIC PLAN WILL BE DRIVEN BY OUR CORE VALUES:

- A love for the study of Torah, both for its own sake and for the sake of personal and communal transformation
- Personal and spiritual growth
- The crucial role of community-building in welcoming multiple perspectives and constructive disagreement
- Building deep connections between the Jewish people worldwide and the State of Israel as an expression of our Zionist commitment.

OUR MISSION

We provide an open, inclusive, diverse and intellectually challenging environment which engages all Jews in the study of classic texts and ideas of their heritage and offers students an intense experience of Jewish life and tradition. Pardes cultivates a life-long love of Jewish learning, the Jewish people and Israel, and inspires students to engage in Jewish life as communal and spiritual leaders, educators and active participants worldwide.

OUR VISION

The Beit Midrashification of Jewish Life.

We envision a renewed Jewish life anchored in Jewish knowledge and literacy, which places the study of Jewish texts at the center of Jewish life with an eye toward contemporary relevance. Text study becomes the roadmap, intoxicating people with learning and how they see the world.

The Study Hall of Jewish Life

Pardes empowers all Jews, regardless of gender, denomination, or background, to live fully engaged Jewish lives and to take ownership of their inheritance: the Torah and Israel.

We are excited for this next phase of growth and invite you to join us as we implement this ambitious plan.



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